

Israel says Beirut seeking new pact

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Lebanon told Israel this week that it will cancel its troop withdrawal pact of last May and that it wanted to negotiate new "security" arrangements for Israel's northern border, Israel Radio said on Sunday. Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor refused to answer questions on whether Israel was approached, but he did not rule out consideration of a new arrangement. "I would not like to speculate on future contingencies," Mr. Meridor told reporters after a meeting of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's cabinet. He said Lebanon had not yet announced abrogation of the agreement, "and I don't want to relate to that possibility now." Military and civilian officials involved in making policy on Lebanon spent most of the day at Mr. Shamir's office, staying on after a four-hour cabinet meeting. The radio said these top officials were discussing Israel's response to the expected cancellation of the accord.

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Collaborator jailed

AMMAN (J.T.) — The military court has sentenced Ali Mohammad Al Suleibi to 10 years in prison with hard labour "for contacting and dealing with the Israeli enemy," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra said. The court also sentenced Ahmad Abdul Aziz Al Sandouri and Ghazi Saleh Mohammad Saleh to five years in prison with hard labour and a fine of JD 3,000 each for trafficking in hashish. Mohammad Al Zaben was sentenced to 10 years in prison with hard labour and a fine of JD 69,528, and Qutaish Mohammad Qutaish to five years in prison with hard labour and a fine of JD 4,100 for embezzlement through forging official documents. The military governor Sunday endorsed the sentences.

Hernu arrives in Kuwait

KUWAIT (AP) — French Defence Minister Charles Hernu arrived Sunday at the head of a high-powered, 18-man military delegation primarily to negotiate a new arms deal with Kuwaiti leaders. "I am here to pursue the talks which began last May in Paris with (Kuwaiti Defence Minister) Sheikh Saleh Al Sabah on a deal for Kuwait to buy French arms for bolstering the defence capabilities of the Kuwaiti armed forces," Mr. Hernu said in an arrival statement. He said that his talks with Kuwaiti officials will deal with the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the troubled situation in Lebanon.

Ustinov begins Indian visit today

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov left Moscow Sunday for a five-day official visit to India, TASS news agency reported. Mr. Ustinov, one of the top figures in the Kremlin's ruling politburo, had been due to make the visit last month, but postponed it when President Yuri Andropov's condition worsened shortly before his death on Feb. 9. The visit starts Monday.

Sharon: Israel may have to shell Nablus

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon said Sunday that Israel may one day have to shell the occupied West Bank city of Nablus if it becomes a centre of "terrorist" activity against Israel. "Let's assume for a moment that Jews will not live in Nablus, and in the course of time terrorist activity begins in Nablus," Mr. Sharon said in remarks broadcast on Israel army radio. "Israel will certainly protest, but something will need to be done. It is reasonable to believe that the day will come when we will have to shell Nablus." Mr. Sharon was speaking to members of the Jewish settlement council of Judea and Samaria (the Israeli name for the occupied West Bank), the radio said. Mr. Sharon and several other members of the government have expressed concern that if the West Bank were returned to Arab sovereignty as part of a future Middle East peace settlement and Israelis were not longer allowed to live there, commando operations against Israeli targets would increase.

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Assad, Lebanese factions agree on new formula for abrogating Israeli pact

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Lebanese opposition leaders Nabih Berri and Walid Junblatt have agreed on a constitutional formula for scrapping Lebanon's troop withdrawal pact with Israel which is being conveyed to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, Mr. Berri said Sunday.

"This agreement provides for the declaration of an abrogation by the Lebanese president, Amin Gemayel, and the Lebanese cabinet without the need for abrogation by the parliament," Mr. Berri, leader of the Shiite Muslim Amal movement, told reporters here.

He said the formula was being conveyed to Mr. Gemayel by Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem and Mr. Gemayel's envoy Jean Obeid, who left for Beirut after two rounds of talks Sunday with Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam.

It was not immediately clear if the formula had previously been discussed with Mr. Gemayel, who had talks with Mr. Assad here last week on scrapping the May 1983 agreement with the Israelis (Kissinger says Gemayel-Assad accord is victory for Syria, page 2).

Mr. Berri said the agreement was reached during his talks Sunday with Mr. Assad and Mr. Junblatt, leader of the mainly Druze

Progressive Socialist Party (PSP). Mr. Salem said before leaving for Beirut that his talks with his Syrian counterpart had been "positive, fruitful and comprehensive."

"We discussed all matters, particularly attendance at the national reconciliation talks which will be held in Switzerland next week," the minister, who had talks with Mr. Berri and Mr. Junblatt earlier Sunday, told reporters.

Mr. Salem appeared to be referring to the week under the Arabic calendar system, and opposition sources said the talks were likely to start next Thursday or Friday (March 8 or 9).

Opposition leaders have said previously that resumption of the talks, on giving Lebanon's Muslim and other minority communities a bigger say in running the country's Christian-dominated government, was conditional on the agreement with Israel being scrapped.

The opposition sources said Mr. Berri and Mr. Junblatt would announce their position on attending the talks after Mr. Gemayel abrogated the accord.

Opposition sources later said Mr. Berri, Mr. Junblatt and other opposition leaders held another meeting with the Syrian foreign minister Sunday evening.

They gave no details of the talks, but said they had discussed the resumption of the reconciliation talks and means of implementing a ceasefire in Lebanon at a meeting earlier Sunday.

Syria says the Israeli-Lebanese accord violates the sovereignty of an Arab country. Lebanese rightist Christians say it is the only guarantee Israel will ever withdraw its troops from the south.

Some Lebanese Christians on the far right say abrogating it would herald a period of Syrian domination of their country. They favour breaking Lebanon into sectarian cantons with their own armies (Falangist leader calls for Lebanese cantons, page 2).

In Beirut, official sources have said Mr. Gemayel promised Mr. Assad he would soon abrogate the agreement with Israel in public. This was a condition set by Syria and the factions it backs in Lebanon for fresh intercommunal talks on a long-term political settlement.

Israelis deny meeting Gemayel after Damascus summit, page 2

Seven Palestinians injured in attack near Ramallah

RAMALLAH, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Seven Palestinian construction workers were wounded early Sunday when the bus they were travelling was attacked by armed gunmen, believed to be Jewish settlers.

The attack occurred near the village of Mazra Sharqiya and the Jewish settlement of Ofra, about 16 kilometres north of Jerusalem. "About 25 of us were on our way to work in Jerusalem. We were going down a hill and I saw three men standing beside the road. It was too foggy to see them clearly, but they started shooting at us," Rawdi Hamed Fayed Al Hijazi told the Associated Press from his bed at Ramallah hospital.

Blood oozed from the bandage on Mr. Hijazi's left hand, and another bandage on his forehead was stained with blood. Doctors said one bullet struck his hand and a second grazed his forehead.

The Palestine Press Services in Jerusalem said the bus was attacked by a group of settlers.

There have been a series of violent episodes in the past few months in Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank, which Israel occupied in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Last Tuesday, two hand grenades exploded in the entrance of a shop in Jerusalem, injuring 21 people.

On Jan. 26, police discovered a cache of explosives near Jerusalem's holiest Muslim shrines, the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosque. The news prompted demonstrations on the West Bank, including one in Nabulus in which a Palestinian youth was shot and killed by Israeli border police.

On Dec. 8, an 11-year-old Palestinian girl was shot to death in her father's bakery in Nabulus. Two Israeli men from the nearby settlement town of Elon Moreh were later arraigned on charges of obstructing the investigation of the case.

On Dec. 6, a bomb exploded on a Jerusalem bus in the city's Jewish area, killing six persons and injuring about 40 others.



SOVIETS GO TO POLLS: Soviet Communist Party Central Committee General Secretary Konstantin Chernenko (centre), his wife Anna Dmitriyevna and Krasnopresbrenski district Communist

Party First Secretary Fyodor Kozyrev-Dal (right) on their way Sunday to a polling station to vote in elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet (see story on page 8).

11 killed in bus accident

KARAK (J.T.) — Eleven people were killed and 32 injured Sunday when a passenger bus overturned and crashed under a bridge.

According to Karak Civil Defence Director Major Abdul Hah Al Madadha the bus, owned by the Public Transport Corporation, was carrying 43 passengers as well as the driver and his assistant at the time of the accident, which occurred near Swaga bridge in Karak governorate.

Maj. Madadha told the Jordan

Times that the accident was due to excessive speed which caused the driver to lose control over his vehicle on a steep road near the bridge. The bus overturned and crashed under the bridge, Maj. Madadha added.

He said that all the passengers were of Egyptian nationality travelling from Aqaba to Amman, but the driver and his assistant, whose leg was broken in the accident, were Jordanians.

At least seven ambulances were rushed to the scene and the injured were carried to Karak hospitals as well as Al Bashir Hospital in Amman for treatment, he said. Bodies of the dead are being kept at Al Bashir Hospital prior to their transfer back to Egypt.

Karak hospital director Dr. Abdul Majid Dmour said that the hospital was treating 25 of the injured passengers four of whom are in critical condition.

Thorn leaves after extensive talks on Mideast, Jordan-Europe ties

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — President of the European Community (EC) Commission Gaston Thorn left Amman for Cairo Sunday morning at the end of a three-day official visit to Jordan.

During his stay in Amman Mr. Thorn met His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and senior Jordanian officials. His talks centred on Middle East developments, Europe's role in efforts for peace in the region and ways for bolstering Jordanian-European trade and economic relations.

Mr. Thorn was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, senior Foreign Ministry officials and ambassadors of the EC nations in Amman.

Cairo will be the second and last stop of Mr. Thorn's tour in the Middle East which came in response to invitations by King Hussein and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

Diplomatic officials close to the EC in Amman said Mr. Thorn's talks with Jordanian officials were centred on two main issues: bilateral economic and trade relations and the political situation in

the area. On the political scene, concerning the Middle East conflict, Europe is willing to take a more active role for a peaceful settlement in the area, but "it is not the right time to take a European initiative especially in the U.S. election year," a European diplomat told the Jordan Times. "The U.S. cannot do much this year," the diplomat, who declined to be identified, said.

He said: "A point Jordan made clear to Mr. Thorn and the EC in this visit was that Europe should not be absorbed entirely by the Lebanese problem, but should realise that the root of this problem is the Palestinian issue, and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination in their homeland, with all what that implies."

The Franco-Egyptian Middle East peace initiative, he said, includes the points missing in both U.S. President Ronald Reagan's peace proposal and the Arab peace plan adopted at Fez, Morocco.

The EC Co-operation Commission, which has signed a trade agreement with Jordan in 1977, will be meeting again with Jordanian trade officials in Brussels in a few months to revitalise Jordan's trade relations with the EC and to discuss the optimal use of this agreement. EC officials told the Jordan Times.

According to an EC official, Jordan "should learn how to start marketing its agricultural products in Europe and to divert its trade mechanisms in a way to impose political pressure by adopting a more aggressive policy."

"Jordan should also exploit every chance to pass its political views across to Europe whenever possible and should not concentrate only on receiving loans from the EC," the official, who preferred to remain anonymous, said. "In short, Jordan should not separate the economic exchange from political exchange, a process Israel is very much aware of," he added.

According to a European diplomat in Amman, Europe has long been supporting the Arab cause and trying to influence the U.S. to have a more balanced policy in the Middle East. "Results might not be much noticed," he said, "but we are trying hard."

EC representative comments on dialogue, page 4

Gemayel, Cheysson discuss French pullout

BEIRUT (R) — President Amin Gemayel and French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson Sunday discussed a French troop withdrawal from Beirut while politicians in Damascus held protracted talks on an overall peace settlement in Lebanon.

The 1,250 French soldiers are the last remnant of a four-nation Western force and diplomatic sources in Paris said Mr. Cheysson was seeking guarantees that withdrawing them would not lead to renewed fighting over their frontline positions.

After a two-hour meeting at the

presidential palace outside the capital, Mr. Cheysson told reporters the withdrawal was one of the most important elements in their consultations but he gave no indication of when the operation might begin.

As they talked, Lebanese army units six kilometres to the east exchanged shell and rocket fire with rebel militias in the nearby Alek hills.

Rival radios reported a sudden escalation on the mountain front after heavy clashes overnight on the "green line" which splits Beirut into a predominantly Christian, east and a mainly Muslim west.

Mr. Cheysson's director for the Middle East, Marc Bonnefous, was in Damascus for meetings with Syrian officials and possibly with the Lebanese opposition.

Since the end of a militia sweep into West Beirut last month, the French troops have found a valuable role supervising the narrow crossing-point between the two halves of the capital, the only one now open.

U.S. New Jersey rests after Lebanon operation, page 2

Klibi proposes new Gulf war mediation

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi said Sunday an initiative "of a new type" was contemplated for bringing the 42-month-old Iran-Iraq war to an end.

Mr. Klibi, who arrived here Saturday to visit Arab states that neighbour the two warring nations, did not go into detail of the new initiative.

He said the initiative would be spearheaded by "Arab states acceptable to both sides," mentioning the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Algeria.

The Arab League secretariat as well as individual league member states were working on this new initiative "after all other initiatives failed," Mr. Klibi said.

He underlined the destructive effect the war has had on the economies of the two countries.

Mr. Klibi's statements were carried by the Emirates news agency WAM following a meeting with UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdullah Al Nuami.

Several initiatives by individual Arab countries, most notably the three mentioned by Mr. Klibi, had been mounted in the past but failed to bring Tehran to accept a ceasefire, let alone sit at the negotiating table.

Meanwhile, the speaker of Iran's parliament claimed Sunday an Iraqi warplane which recently attacked Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal was shot down, and warned Iran would close the Strait of Hormuz if Iraq mounted a successful raid.

Hojatollah Ali Akbar Rafsanjani told Tehran Radio Iraq had launched previous air and

missile attacks against the terminal, which had caused damages.

But if it managed to disrupt Iranian oil exports, Iran would react by closing the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf. Mr. Rafsanjani said, adding such a closure would only be prolonged if the United States intervened.

Iraq said last Monday it mounted a "destructive attack" on oil tankers at Kharg Island and threatened to hit any vessels approaching the terminal.

U.K. says it's neutral

Britain Sunday denied sending Iraq chemical weapons and a Foreign Office spokesman said Britain was neutral in the Gulf war.

Tehran Radio charged Saturday that Britain had sent Iraq planes, tanks and weapons worth billions

of dollars since the war began in September 1980 and was sending chemical weapons.

The spokesman said: "We have not supplied lethal equipment to either side. We have not supplied any chemical weapons or equipment for use in their manufacture to Iraq."

He said British firms could export non-lethal defence equipment to either side but only after rigorous scrutiny.

This could include planes but government sources said Britain had supplied no aircraft to Iraq since war broke out and they doubted there were any serviceable British planes in Iraq.

Britain announced in the late 1950s it was renouncing chemical warfare unilaterally and officials say stockpiles were destroyed years ago.

Mondale, Hart face tough test of strength in Maine

PORTLAND, Maine (R) — Democratic presidential hopefuls Walter Mondale and Gary Hart faced a key test of strength Sunday as an opinion poll shows near-equal support for both.

Democrats in 425 Maine communities voted Sunday to indicate which contender they prefer in balloting that both men say is crucial to their campaigns.

Mr. Hart, with limited cash resources, surprised pollsters by beating the well-financed former Vice-President Mondale in primary election in New Hampshire on Tuesday. Mr. Mondale had previously been regarded as a near-certain for the Democratic presidential nomination.

And a Gallup poll commissioned by Newsweek magazine and conducted after the New Hampshire primary indicated Mr.

Hart had almost drawn level with Mr. Mondale.

The television poll of 511 Democrats and independents who said they would probably vote Democratic showed 35 per cent preferred Mr. Hart while 37 per cent favoured Mr. Mondale.

Maine has become an important political battleground. Only 27 of 3,933 national convention delegates are at stake, but Mr. Hart and Mr. Mondale are seeking momentum for the "super Tuesday" series of primaries and caucuses which start in nine states on March 13.

Mr. Mondale, vice-president under Jimmy Carter, beat Mr. Hart in Iowa caucuses two weeks ago.

"I won one. I lost one," he said. "Now it's Maine's turn to speak in a significant way. It's a tight race."

Nigerian riots death toll reportedly reaches 1,000

LAGOS (R) — Up to 1,000 people have died in a week of religious violence in the northeast Nigerian city of Yola where fighting is still raging, the government-owned New Nigerian newspaper said Sunday.

Hospital sources gave a figure of 250. A government official said on Wednesday that 137 people died in the disturbances, which began on Monday.

The newspaper said about 500 bodies had been removed from the Yola hospital for mass burial. The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) said 100 bodies were buried in a mass grave on Tuesday.

Troops moved in on Friday to quell fighting by Muslim fundamentalists who had regrouped and were using "sophisticated weapons" to beat back police, a police spokesman said.

The religious violence, the country's third outbreak in just over three years, was started by followers of Muslim fundamentalist leader Muhammadu Marwa Matintse, police said.

He was killed in rioting in the northern city of Kano three years ago. An official report said more than 4,000 people died in these riots.

The newspaper said the streets of Yola were littered with bodies of suspected fanatics lynched by mobs.

It said many people were killed in cross-fire when they emerged from the rioters' enclave.

Hundreds of men, women and children who fled their homes were camped in refugee sheds in police and army barracks as well as an open field in one of the city's districts, it said.

Joint committee names Anani, Wazir to visit Algeria for raising funds

By Afifah A. Kaloti
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The first of a number of special Jordanian-Palestinian committees to tour Arab capitals to raise funds to support the people living under the Israeli occupation is expected to begin its mission by mid-March.

The Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee to support the Steadfastness of the People Living under Occupation tentatively decided Sunday to dispatch the first delegation for Algeria which will include Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Jawad Al Anani from the Jordanian side and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) deputy military commander Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), told the Jordan Times.

The decision to assign delegations to tour various Arab countries was decided during the first meeting of the committee's 25th session held in Amman last Tuesday.

The Arab countries to be visited are those which were committed by the Baghdad Arab summit of 1979 to provide financial assistance to the Arab fund for supporting the steadfastness of people living under Israeli occupation.

The joint committee, in its second meeting Sunday, discussed in detail the financial situation of the fund as well as adopting resolutions regarding the preparation of a financial plan for the fund to execute programmes in accordance with priorities.

Mr. Wazir told the Jordan Times that priorities will be given to Jerusalem in implementing the fund's projects. "We should give importance to efforts to solve the difficulties facing the Jerusalem region in supporting individual and collective housing," in the occupied city, Mr. Wazir said.

Sunday's meeting, which was co-chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salim Arar and Hamed Abu Sittah, a member of the PLO Executive Committee and director of the organisation's Occupied Territories Affairs Department, for the Jordanian and Palestinian sides respectively, also decided to form subcommittees to assess the committee's previous activities and to adopt recommendations for future plans.

Mr. Wazir said the committee will exert all possible efforts to secure financial resources for the

implementation of its programmes.

The joint delegations' four aim at "urging Arab countries to honour their commitments made at the Baghdad summit," he said.

The other delegations, from the one formed Sunday, have not been named yet, Mr. Wazir said.

"It is not yet decided who are to go and when," he said.

The delegation to visit Algeria not only will seek financial support but will also "acquaint Algeria with the difficulties faced by the people under occupation as a result of the arbitrary measures practised by the Israeli occupying authorities," he said.

The delegation will also give detailed account on the committee's various activities in supporting the steadfastness of people under occupation, Mr. Wazir said.

Sunday's meeting of the committee was attended by Dr. Ana Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud, Mr. Wazir, PLO Executive Committee member Hanna Nasir, a PLO representative in Amman Abdul Razak Al Yahya.

The committee will resume meetings Monday.

Kissinger says Gemayel-Assad accord is victory for Syria

HOUSTON, Texas (AP) — Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said Saturday that a potential agreement between Syria and Lebanon should be considered a victory for Syria and not a reconciliation.

"What has happened in Lebanon is a victory for the Syrians," Dr. Kissinger told a news conference here. "There will be a government that is pro-Syrian installed and Syria will have the veto over anything the Lebanese government does. You can call that reconciliation if you want to, but it is in fact a victory for the radical factions."

"I would urge all those who so

politely keep talking about the coalition government in Central America to see what happens in a civil war. Somebody wins and somebody loses. In Lebanon Syria has won, and that's a fact of life," said Dr. Kissinger, who is chairman of the Bipartisan commission on Central America.

Dr. Kissinger was in Houston for an academic conference on Soviet policy sponsored by the

University of Houston.

Dr. Kissinger also said there was "no chance" that Lebanon would cancel its troop withdrawal agreement with Israel.

After talks last week between Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and Syrian President Hafez Assad, Mr. Gemayel was expected to announce the cancellation of the pact with Israel, as Syria has demanded, and a Syrian-guaranteed cease-fire.

In his keynote address to about 250 participants in the conference, Dr. Kissinger said rapid changes in Soviet leadership and disarray in the Soviet economy puts the United States in a sup-

erior bargaining position.

Mr. Konstantin Chernenko became secretary general after the recent death of Yuri Andropov, who had taken office in November of 1982, succeeding the late Leonid Brezhnev. "I think that have two successions in 15 months, plus the fact that it is now the aging majority of the politburo plus the mess of the Soviet economy, all these will combine to make the Soviets not look for confrontation with the United States," he said.

"They will not seek a crisis with the United States, but that doesn't mean that they will be extremely generous or will not exploit every situation."

Falangist militia leader calls for federal Lebanon of cantons

BEIRUT (R) — A Falangist militia leader was quoted Sunday as calling for Lebanon to be turned into a federal state made up of cantons controlled by different religious groups.

Karim Pakradouni, an Armenian lawyer who is political adviser to the Lebanese Forces militia, told the weekly magazine Monday Morning: "Cantonisation isn't a pejorative term, as some people like to consider it. On the contrary, for us it is a positive solution."

He suggested each religious group in Lebanon could have its own army and its own canton. The only alternative was to have Lebanon partitioned between Syria and Israel, whose armies now occupy three quarters of the country.

The Falangist militia first mentioned dividing Lebanon into cantons last month after the president, Amin Gemayel, was reported ready to make concessions to his Syrian-backed opponents.

The opponents want political reforms to give them a greater share in running the country.

"We do not think reforms, regardless of their nature, can bring about a solution," Mr. Pakradouni said.

"The Christians see reforms as

forced concessions, while the Muslims consider them inadequate... we need a complete overhaul of the Lebanese political system, a revolution even."

Mr. Pakradouni said if President Gemayel abrogates last May's troop withdrawal agreement with Israel, which official sources say he has promised Syria he will, it would make Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad "the undisputed leader of the Arab World."

Militant Falangist see links with Israel as the only guarantee that Lebanon will not be dominated by Syria. Mr. Pakradouni, echoing statements by other leaders of the Falangist militia, said the group had reservations about the abrogation.

The Lebanese Forces had recently re-organised and had decided to resume "the control, running and provision of security of Christian areas," he said.

For the last 18 months the militia has allowed the Lebanese army to have formal responsibility for security in Christian areas.

But Mr. Pakradouni said the collapse of the army last month in battles with anti-government militias proved that "the gamble of having a mixed, combatant army

has not paid off."

Mr. Pakradouni said the Lebanese Forces had decided on a three-point political programme: The defence of Christian regions, proposing a federal republic, and working out an accommodation between Maronite Christians and Shi'ite Muslims.

The unwritten national pact of 1943 divided power among Maronites and Sunni Muslims, then the two most influential communities in the country, with Shi'ites and other communities playing minor roles.

Since then, the Shi'ites have increased both in numbers and political power.

Unofficial figures collected by a French family planning survey in 1977 listed the Shi'ites as the biggest single community, with 850,000 to 900,000 members, and the Maronites as the second largest with 750,000 to 800,000. The two made up 52 per cent of Lebanon's 3,110,000 to 3,210,000 people.

Mr. Pakradouni said cantonisation could start before all foreign forces withdrew. New areas would be brought into the system each time an area of territory was "liberated."

New Jersey rests after Lebanon mission

HAIFA (AP) — The USS New Jersey of the American 6th Fleet, one of the world's largest battleships, has set anchor at this port city for rest after being posted off the Lebanese coast near Beirut.

Since Friday, some of the ship's 1,500 crew members have been seen strolling Haifa's main sidewalks.

The ship's commander, Captain R.D. Milligan told a reporter Friday night, "we're delighted to be back here."

The New Jersey last docked in Haifa in December. Israel's busiest Mediterranean port has become a frequent vacation spot for 6th Fleet ships since the Lebanese capital is considered too dangerous for American military per-

sonnel to visit.

Capt. Milligan said he thought his ship had done "very well" in defending the 1,600-man Marine contingent of the Multi-National Force that completed a withdrawal to other 6th Fleet ships on Feb. 26.

He declined to comment on President Ronald Reagan's decision to move the Marines offshore.

The New Jersey's 16-inch (41-cm) guns, the largest afloat, have been involved in heavy shelling against Syrian-backed forces opposed to Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's government.

"I think the battleship is a definite weapon of peace, a battleship with significant fire power, and I

hope we have made some impact on trying to bring peace to Lebanon," Capt. Milligan said.

A naval officer who requested anonymity said of the Beirut mission: "If you have any qualms about killing people then you shouldn't be in this business."

"We are not an unsinkable ship," said Capt. Milligan, in reply to a question about the ship's capabilities. But he added that the New Jersey was built to withstand attempted suicide attacks.

The ship, which was in action in World War II, the Korean and Vietnam wars, has an armored hull that is virtually impregnable. Its decks were designed in 1943 to withstand attacks by Japanese kamikaze pilots.

Israelis deny meeting Gemayel after Damascus trip

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel radio on Sunday quoted sources as denying that an Israeli official met with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel to discuss alternatives to last May's Israel-Lebanon agreement.

The Israeli officials were also quoted as saying that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government would likely refuse to negotiate a new agreement if requested to do so by the United States or Lebanon.

Mr. Gemayel reportedly flew from Damascus to the Greek island of Rhodes last Thursday and a report published in the United States said he met with an unidentified Israeli official and U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad reportedly gave Mr. Gemayel a last chance to renegotiate an alternative to the accord instead of simply abrogating it, Israel army radio said.

But the radio quoted the Israeli officials as saying that if Mr. Gemayel proposes changes in the accord "Israel will reject this."

"After the cancellation of one agreement, how can we be expected to sign another," Israel radio quoted the unidentified officials as saying.

The daily Yedioth Ahronoth wrote under a banner headline that Mr. Assad has withdrawn several army units from Lebanon's Bekaa Valley to the outskirts of Damascus because of an internal power struggle that has weakened his regime.

Yedioth said its information came from informants who had entered Israeli-held territory from Beirut and the Bekaa Valley.

The army radio, quoting sources reaching Israel, said that Mr. Gemayel took advantage of Mr. Assad's internal political difficulties to delay openly committing himself to abrogating the agreement. Israeli sources were quoted by the radio as saying they also believed Mr. Assad did not persuade Mr. Gemayel to scrap the agreement.



An ambulance is loaded aboard a plane for Lebanon, carrying West German relief goods worth \$200,000 at Cologne-Bonn Airport Friday (AP wirephoto)

Libya officially supports Sudanese rebels

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has said he supports rebels in southern Sudan waging a guerrilla campaign against the government of President Jaafar Numeiri.

"Libya has decided to side with the revolution in southern Sudan so as to liberate every inch of the Sudan," the official Libyan News Agency JANA, Monitored in Beirut, quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying in a speech on Saturday night.

Although Mr. Numeiri has accused Col. Qadhafi and Ethiopia of backing the rebels, observers said they believed it was the first time

the Libyan leader had publicly expressed support for them.

Since Mr. Numeiri introduced Islamic Law last September, the rebels have struck important economic projects and attacked foreign workers in the south of the country.

"The peoples will march forward and will step up the struggle and the popular war of liberation in Sudan today, in Egypt tomorrow and in every part of the world America wants to dominate," Col. Qadhafi said in his speech marking the seventh anniversary of the foundation of the

Libyan "Jamahiriya".

Col. Qadhafi called for special "camps" to train his country for a "war of popular liberation."

JANA reported Saturday.

Col. Qadhafi said: "We want to train in the use of arms in these camps and train for the popular liberation war so that we can confront America and all the enemies of the Arab nation."

Libyans "are waging a battle for development and liberation side by side. We have determination for the one and carry a rifle for the other," Col. Qadhafi said.

Rebels' ability to remove Arafat doubtful

By Dina Matar
Reuters

DAMASCUS — Ten weeks after they ousted Mr. Arafat from Tripoli, north Lebanon, radical commandos opposed to his policies are still intent on toppling him from the Palestinian leadership.

But independent Palestinian sources doubt whether the commandos, who waged an all-out rebellion against Mr. Arafat and his loyalists in Lebanon last year, can muster enough support to remove him from his longtime perch as chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Arafat and some 4,000 of his men sailed into exile from Tripoli, his last military stronghold, in December for the second time in 16 months after Syrian-backed rebels surrounded them in fierce fighting.

The rebellion within Mr. Arafat's mainstream Fatah commando group, the core of the PLO, broke out last May, with the dissidents demanding reforms within the PLO, armed struggle against Israel and replacement of Mr. Arafat by a collective leadership.

Now, the rebel leaders, still flushed with their military victory over Mr. Arafat, say they are waging a political struggle to remove him as head of both Fatah and the PLO by trying to win majority support within PLO institutions.

"Our aim now is to direct the struggle to topple Mr. Arafat from within the PLO and to strip him of his legitimacy," rebel spokesman Mahmud Labbadi told Reuters in Damascus.

In the meantime, Mr. Labbadi — once a close confidant of Mr. Arafat — said rebel fighters based in north and east Lebanon were helping Lebanese "national forces" (opposition militias) in their struggle against Israeli occupation of South Lebanon.

"Our forces in Lebanon are under the command of the Lebanese National Forces. Palestinians have every right to fight Israel in any Arab country," Mr. Labbadi said.

He said a majority of the Fatah rank and file had joined the anti-Arafat "uprising" and that "most" of the PLO's other commandos factions now sided with the rebels.

Independent Palestinian sources, however, said Mr. Arafat still enjoyed support within Fatah. They said the rebels were still unable to win over enough members of PLO bodies to be confident of majority support against Mr. Arafat's leadership.

The two other big PLO groups, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) of George Habash and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) of Nayef Hawatmeh, backed the rebels' calls for reforms but strongly disapproved

of last year's inter-Palestinian fighting, saying it did not help the Palestinian cause.

The PFLP and DFLP said late last year they were prepared to help conduct a dialogue between the rival factions of Fatah in the hope of preserving PLO unity.

But the tide changed after Mr. Arafat's controversial visit to Cairo last December when he met President Hosni Mubarak.

Like most Arab nations, the PLO had long ostracised Egypt for making peace with Israel.

Denouncing the visit, the PFLP and DFLP called for a clear-cut position from the Fatah central committee and an end to all dealings with the Cairo government.

Mr. Habash publicly called for Mr. Arafat's dismissal as PLO chief. In an interview with Reuters, the PFLP leader said: "Arafat must be removed as PLO head if the PLO wants to play an effective role at this stage."

He said the Palestinian factions based in Syria were seeking to form a "broad front" to fight what he called Mr. Arafat's deviationist policies.

The DFLP has refrained from attacking Mr. Arafat by name. But it says it is trying to "topple Arafat's course of action" as represented by his talks with Mr. Mubarak.

Under the PLO's complex structure, the only body which can decide whether Mr. Arafat should remain PLO leader or be dis-

Israeli cabinet debates W. Bank mayors' meeting with Arafat

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

— The Israeli cabinet Sunday debated with action to take against a group of West Bank leaders who recently met Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Jordan, a government spokesman said.

Spokesman Dan Meridor told reporters after the weekly cabinet meeting it was against military law for West Bank Palestinians to meet members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), banned in Israel and occupied territories.

"After the discussion, instructions were issued according to the government's well-established policy in this respect which is that such meetings are a violation of military law which rules these territories," he said.

Mr. Meridor would not say what the instructions were but added that the discussion was held under the auspices of the ministerial defence committee whose proceedings must remain secret under Israeli law.

A group of 38 Palestinians, including Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij, met Mr. Arafat and His Majesty King Hussein last week and urged Mr. Arafat to give King Hussein a mandate to negotiate peace with Israel.

Hardline former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon has urged the government to prosecute the group. But Israeli newspapers said Sunday Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was unlikely to heed his advice.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Kocan
17:40 Cartoons
18:05 Children's Programmes
19:20 Programmes review
19:30 Programme on Jordan Armed Forces
20:00 News in Arabic
20:10 Arabic Series
21:25 Local Comedy
21:30 Arabic Variety Programme
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy Buffet 822 — E. 6
21:00 Towards 2001
21:10 Documentary: Is Your Brain Really Necessary?
22:00 News in English
22:15 Hart to Hart

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
& party on 9560 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsday
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show
10:00 Pop Session
10:30 News Summary
11:00 Pop Session
11:30 News Bulletin
12:00 Instrumental
12:30 Concert Hour
13:00 News Summary
13:30 Sports Round-up
14:00 Arabians Nights
14:30 Newsday
15:00 Old Favourites
15:30 Classical Show Case
16:00 Pop Session
16:30 News Summary
17:00 Sports Round-up
17:30 Arabians Nights
18:00 Newsday
18:30 Evening Show
19:00 News Summary
19:30 News Summary
20:00 News Summary

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1240 & SW 7200, 9165, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz.

06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries, sports reports; VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; Viewpoints; features 17:00
07:00 Evening Show
08:00 News Summary
09:00 News Summary
10:00 News Summary
11:00 News Summary
12:00 News Summary
13:00 News Summary
14:00 News Summary
15:00 News Summary
16:00 News Summary
17:00 News Summary
18:00 News Summary
19:00 News Summary
20:00 News Summary
21:00 News Summary
22:00 News Summary
23:00 News Summary
24:00 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Turkish handicrafts, paintings and copperware exhibition at the Sun Rock Hotel.
* Photos exhibition on Romania at the Plastic Artists Association at Jabel Leuwiddeh at 4:30 p.m.
* Turkish embroidery and paintings exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

* "Contribution Française à L'archéologie Jordanienne" starts at the University of Jordan's library at 5:00 p.m.

VIDEO

* "Alistair Cooke's America" and "A More Abundant Life", programmes start at the American Centre at 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
* "Musique" starts at the French Cultural Centre at 4:00 p.m.

MUSIC

* "Tania Chagnon" starts at the French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre . Tel. 661026/7
American Centre . Tel. 44371
American Centre Library . 41520
British Council . 36147-8
French Cultural Centre . 37069
Goethe Institute . 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre . 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre . 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre . 39777
Hays Arts Centre . 665195
Hays Arts Centre . 667181
Y.W.C.A. . 41793
Y.W.M.A. . 664251
Amman Municipal Library . 36111
University of Jordan Lib. . 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics

from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Cradle Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Arab countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Montazah, Jabel Leuwiddeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 years old home sites as costume, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Leuwiddeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Lassa Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiah, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiah, 75261.
Syrian Catholic Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafiah, 71751.

PRAYER TIMES

04:36 Fajr
05:59 (Shurub) Shurub
06:00 Dhahir
15:06 'Asr
17:36 Maghreb
18:09 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Air Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 532520 where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:00 Cairo (MS)
07:05 Agaba (RJ)
07:10 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
07:15 Jeddah (RJ)
07:20 Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)
07:25 Cairo (RJ)
07:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
07:35 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
07:40 Beirut, Lebanon (RJ)
07:45 Moscow (SU)
07:50 Kuwait (RJ)
07:55 Jeddah, Medina (RJ)
08:00 Baghdad, Beirut (RJ)
08:05 Athens (RJ)
08:10 New York, Vienna (RJ)
08:15 Bangkok (RJ)
08:20 Cairo (RJ)
08:25 Cairo (RJ)
08:30 Tbilisi, Cairo (RJ)
08:35 Frankfurt, Damascus (RJ)
08:40 Baghdad (RJ)
08:45 Cairo (RJ)
08:50 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

08:45 Cairo (RJ)
08:50 Agaba (RJ)
08:55 Cairo (RJ)
09:00 Cairo (RJ)
09:05 Damascus, Geneva, Zurich (RJ)
09:10 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
09:15 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
09:20 Paris, London (RJ)
09:25 Geneva, Frankfurt (RJ)
09:30 Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
09:35 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (RJ)
09:40 Cairo (RJ)
09:45 Moscow (SU)
09:50 Kuwait (RJ)
09:55 Istanbul, Baghdad (RJ)
10:00 Medina, Jeddah (RJ)
10:05 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jls
Belgian franc 69.57 / 69.9
Dutch guilder 126.1 / 126.9
Egyptian guinea 31.78 / 320.6
French franc 46 / 46.5
Italian lira 358.3 / 362.6
Italian lire (for 100) 22.9 / 23.1
Japanese yen (for 100) 161.1 / 162.1
Kuwaiti dinar 1260.6 / 1266.6
Lebanese lira 63.6 / 64.5
Omani rial 105.6 / 106.5
Qatari rial 100.9 / 101.3
Saudi riyal 104.8 / 105.3
Swedish crown 47.4 / 47.7
Thai baht 170.4 / 171.4
Syrian lira 53.5 / 54.1
U.A.E. dirham 100 / 100.5
U.K. sterling pound 348 / 348.3
U.S. dollar 367.5 / 369.5
W. German mark 141.9 / 142.8

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with southerly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and near calm.

Low/high temperature in deg.C:

Amman 17/23
Agaba 15/23
Deserta 11/22
Jordan Valley 13/25

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 17, Agaba 23. Humidity range: Amman 62 per cent, Agaba 60 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
First Aid, fire, police 199
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 66111
Fire headquarters 22091
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water supply 71125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 81381-32
Khadija Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Al-Salam Maternity 42441
Jabel Amman Maternity 42362
Matina, J. Amman 36141
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Musader Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajirin 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah 75111
Army, Marka 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Jameel Zubaidi Maraga 76149

MARKET PRICES

Uppertower price in Jls per kg.

Apple 350/300
Banana 280/240
Banana (Mukawana) 240/210
Beans 540/480
Cabbage 60/40
Carrot 140/110
Cauliflower (white) 30/60
Cauliflower (large) 220/160
Cucumber (small) 330/280
Dates 180/150
Eggplant (large) 180/140
Eggplant (small) 180/120
Garlic 400/300
Ginger 340/240
Grapes (black) 700/600
Grapes (white) 700/600

Grapes (black) 700/600
Grapefruit 140/110
Guava 400/300
Lemon 140/120
Marrow 220/160
Marrow (small) 350/300
Mushrooms 230/200
Olives 350/200
Onion (dry) 170/140
Onion (wet) 150/100
Oranges (Abn Surr) 280/220
Oranges (Shamouti) 240/180
Pears 500/400
Pepper (sweet) 600/500
Pepper (hot green) 700/600
Potatoes 180/150

RSS wants to introduce national building code

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) is seeking to establish a set of national building specifications to govern all construction work in Jordan and to ensure safe and secure buildings, according to RSS's Building Research Centre (BRC) Director Rawhi Al Sharif.

He said in a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the lack of such national specifications has led to the appearance of buildings and installations of poor quality in Jordan.

It has become necessary to adopt national building specifications that can meet the needs of Jordanian society, and that will

enable engineers, workers and ordinary citizens to refer to a sound and proven body of rules in implementing construction work, Jordan, he pointed out, spends nearly JD 1 million annually on construction work, and therefore everything possible should be done to safeguard the standards.

The BRC, in co-operation with the Ministry of Public Works, has compiled technical specifications for building in three volumes, Dr. Sharif said.

He continued that one of these volumes deals with the general specifications and civil works, the second deals with aspects of mechanical engineering and the third, concerns the electrical side.

British loan to help finance energy in Irbid

AMMAN (Petra) — The British government is to extend to Jordan a £256,000 loan to partially finance the development of electrical energy in the Irbid region and to purchase maintenance equipment needed by the Natural Resources Authority (NRA), in accordance with a memorandum signed by the two sides here Sunday.

The loan will complement another one extended by Britain to Jordan in 1973.

The memorandum was signed by the president of the National Planning Council, Mr. Omar Abdulla Dakhlan and British Ambassador to Jordan Alan Urwick.

Alia takes delivery of new TriStar aircraft

By Lina Nabli
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A new TriStar aircraft Sunday arrived in Amman to enter into the regular service of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline.

The aircraft, one of four ordered by Alia, will operate on the Amman-Los Angeles and Chicago routes, according to Alia's Board Chairman and President Ali Ghandour.

"Today we celebrate two occasions: The arrival of the new TriStar and the start of the new route to Los Angeles and Chicago," Mr. Ghandour said in a statement to the Jordan Times.

The new line, which began Saturday, will serve commercial and tourist business in Jordan and the United States and will also serve as a bridge for Jordanian expatriates

in the United States, Mr. Ghandour said.

With the new addition, Alia now owns a fleet of 19 aircraft of which six are TriStars, three Boeing 747s, six Boeing 727s and four 707s.

Alia will receive two new TriStars in 1985 and another one in 1986 and these will be put into service on the airline's long-distance routes, Mr. Ghandour announced.

In April, he added, Alia will open a new route linking Amman with East Berlin and in May, a route between Amman and Singapore will be added to Alia's programme.

At hand to receive the new TriStar were Her Highness Princess Alia, Mr. Ghandour, Ministry of Transport under-secretary and other officials.



CIVIL DEFENCE TOUR: Director of the Saudi Arabian Civil Defence Department Hashim Mohammad Abdul Rahman arrived here Sunday on a four-day official tour of Jordan (Petra photo)

Rashid returns after touring building sites in Singapore

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Development Corporation (ADC) director Sami Al Rashid returned to Amman Saturday evening at the end of a week-long tour of Singapore where he studied the country's construction, development and housing projects.

During the visit, Mr. Rashid toured a number of projects and held talks with officials in various ministries and institutions concerned with building parks, recreational centres, and other public utilities in Singapore.

He said that these organisations and departments co-ordinate very closely in implementing such projects and in building roads, schools and other public projects.

One of the important experiments he examined was the construction of high-rise buildings, due to the high cost of land. This practice is encouraged by the authorities, Mr. Rashid added.

The Singapore government is constantly building housing projects for limited-income families and also constructs public gardens and parks attached to each project, Mr. Rashid said.

King meets Qatari aide

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein received at Al Nadwa Palace Sunday the Qatari foreign minister, Sheikh Suheim Ibn Hamad Al Thani.

Sheikh Suheim, who arrived here Saturday on an official visit to

Jordan, left Amman Sunday evening.

He was seen off at the airport by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Qatari Ambassador in Amman Sheikh Hamad Ibn Mohammad Ibn Jaber Al Thani.

New law aims to boost disperse investment

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has decided to divide the country into three sectors for the purpose of encouraging investments particularly in industry and mining. According to a new encouragement of investment law that came into effect early last month projects that are set up in sector 'A' will enjoy a total exemption from tax for the first five years and will only have to pay 60 per cent tax in the following two years.

Sector 'A' includes: Amman and its neighbouring villages, Naour, Ain Al Pasha, Safout, Baqa'a, and the northern and central Jordan Valley regions.

Schemes carried out in sector 'B', which groups Irbid, Ramtha, Ajloun, Madaba and Balqa, districts will be fully exempted from tax for the first eight years after new industries are established with a further 60 per cent exemption in the following two years.

The rest of the country will be regarded as a region needing comprehensive development in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry and industrial and mining projects. These areas will be classified under category 'C' and will enjoy total tax exemptions for 12 years.

Officials say the investment zoning system will be important in spreading economic projects to all parts of Jordan, and may even help attract some industries away from the area of the capital.

Seventy-five per cent of the industries are in and around Amman.

Also under the new law, minimum fixed asset requirements for new projects in zone A are nearly three times those in zone C, which also enjoys better tax exemptions and other incentives.

Hassan seeks intellectuals committee to plan strategy

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has called for the creation of a higher committee grouping a limited number of intellectuals to work out an integrated strategy for Jordan in the 1980s.

Addressing a gathering of the World Affairs Council (WAC) in Amman Saturday evening, Prince Hassan said that the committee would be entrusted with a multi-purpose mission to work out the details of the strategy, select work teams to prepare material, appointing editors to write introductions to each piece of research work and finally to review the work of each team and its research.

He said that the committee of intellectuals should be selected from universities, research centres and various scientific academies.

The committee's work will focus on drawing up a strategy for Jordan in the 1980s, but this should be based on three important principles, Prince Hassan explained.

First, he said, the committee should conduct a comprehensive review of Jordan's history with a view to highlighting the country's ancient Arab and Islamic affiliations, with the stress on the various civilisations it has witnessed over the different ages and the relation of these civilisations to the country of today.

The establishment of the Hashemite Kingdom in this region was not a mere coincidence, he said, but rather a continuation of the

participation of the Hashemites in the Arab and Islamic culture.

It constitutes another link in the long struggle to carry out their mission throughout the Arab World, he said.

The second point that should be taken into consideration is a review of the achievements attained by this country over the past 60 years, Prince Hassan said.

This period is full of achievements and events and, in the light of these, the committee should try to draw up a plan for future requirements.

It should also suggest a methodology for sound thinking and to prescribe practical action for our economic and social institutions and in the various aspects of Jordanian life, Prince Hassan added.

Third, it should clarify the short- and long-term objectives of the country in view of the previous two factors, he said.

Jordan-PLO ties

In his lecture, which was attended by WAC members and other dignitaries, Prince Hassan also denounced as evil calls for discord and division among Jordanians and Palestinians in this

country as "aimed at serving imperialist designs and dividing the Arab Nation."

Such calls can only emanate from alien sources and from people with ill-intentions, Prince Hassan said.

Jordanian-Palestinian interaction over the ages and the inter-mixing of both peoples has existed in Jordan since early memory, he said.

There was never any boundaries or separate political entities existing to divide the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, until the British mandate came and divided this region, Prince Hassan asserted.

He said: "Therefore, any call to end this unity is contrary to the nature of cohesion and co-existence among people, and is at odds with historical realities."

"Any strategy for Jordan which excludes the cultural and social unity of both peoples is bound to fail because it does not serve the community's social and economic interests," he said.

In reviewing the historical, political, cultural and geographical background of Jordan, Prince Hassan said that this country has always had a spiritual affinity to the Great Arab Revolt.

Indeed, the founder of the Kingdom, the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, gave the country the name of "the Arab Orient Emirate" while its army was called the Arab Legion to symbolise the true meaning contained in the principles of that revolt, Prince Hassan said.

Kana'an opens greening programme near Mafraq

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an said here Sunday that the government is keen to develop the rural regions of Jordan, to help its inhabitants to build up an integrated society and to increase its rate of agricultural production in a bid to reduce the country's imports of foodstuffs.

The minister was speaking at a ceremony launching a project to develop and green the rural regions of Mafraq and also runs a kindergarten and a literacy centre.

At the end of the ceremony, Mr. Kana'an presented the society with JD 500 as a donation to help it carry out its other activities.

Altogether 16,000 trees will be planted in accordance with a programme to develop the two areas. Later, the minister visited the Manshiet Bani Hassan Society and studied its services.

The society offers training courses in sewing, dress making, typing, carpentry and also runs a kindergarten and a literacy centre.

At the end of the ceremony, Mr. Kana'an presented the society with JD 500 as a donation to help it carry out its other activities.

Customs catch gold smugglers

AMMAN (Petra) — The customs authorities in Jordan last month confiscated 2,350 foreign-made cartons of cigarettes which had been smuggled into the country and collected fines on them.

This was announced Sunday by Adel Al Quda, director of customs, who said that customs officials last month also foiled an attempt by smugglers to bring illegally into the country six kilograms of gold.

Last year, customs officials in Jordan confiscated 39,600 cartons of foreign cigarettes.

Models of old Turkish houses top varied exhibition

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The highlight of a varied and interesting exhibition of Turkish contemporary art and traditional handicrafts, now on show at the Royal Cultural Centre, has to be the perfect models of old Turkish houses. Constructed by Mrs. Sule Ulgun, whose aim is to "protect the cultural wealth of Turkey especially in the field of architecture", these exact replicas have been so lovingly and painstakingly made, that no detail, however small and trivial, has been omitted. In this way, the artist has managed to capture not only the beauty of these buildings but also their air of vulnerability and fragile antiquity.

Grand places

What grand places they must have been in their heyday with their waterfront locations, their frescoes, their cantilevered upper floors, their latticed and shuttered windows and sloping red roofs under whose eaves the antlers of magnificent beasts were hung. Now, as the photographs and Ulgun's models show, they are quickly falling into disrepair, the peeling paint, the exposed rafters and tangled gardens only hinting at their former glory. Although these buildings are still capable of inspiring love and affection in whoever sees them, perhaps not many people do see them and surely the purpose of Ulgun's models is to draw attention to these buildings. They do so in a way no other method could for these models isolate the houses from their surroundings and this, along with the intricate and tiny detailing, means one can study and see them much more clearly than perhaps is normally possible. By making this generation more aware of the beauty of these houses, maybe Ulgun's work will help preserve them for the next.

Figurative paintings

Dominated (gratifyingly) by women artists is the display of Turkish contemporary art. More surprisingly still is that all 47 paintings on display are figurative. For the most part they are beautifully executed like for example Mrs. Gulser Hasmoglu's mixed media paintings which play with one's perception. Particularly good is her rendition of a fish stall. At first you think you are looking

with a bird's eye view at the rows of shiny, brown fish staring slightly back up at you. Then you suddenly notice the place hooked up and hanging along the back. Is the stall in plan or elevation? The answer of course is both. Intriguing and clever, Hasmoglu's work has great appeal.

Gentle water colours

Also attractive is the gently naive watercolours of Miss Ruzin Gercin. These little landscapes depict Turkish scenery at its best — the trees in full blossom, the tiny square house rising along ridges, and soft blue skies. Quite normal scenes in fact, but what sets them apart are the inhabitants — tiny people about their rural duties who are placed with childlike logic along the very bottom edge of the painting.

ART REVIEW

In complete contrast with the quiet innocence of these paintings

are the strange landscapes of Ulke Uludogan. These convey the sense of eerie isolation surely to be found in Turkey's vast open spaces and in the dark rolling barren hills whose forbidding masses, depicted by Uludogan are lit with shafts of light that penetrate heavy, almost molten clouds.

Influences of other artists abound, like that of Van Gogh in Uludogan's 'Saras' landscapes. More interestingly however is the fact that Nailie Akinci's little townscapes, rising with their minarets and cypress trees above the Bosphorus, have a feel of our own Princess Fahrelnissa Zeid about them.

Other good works include the two echoing arches of light created by Mrs. Karnak and the lovely angles of Mrs. Nevin Ulutas bare brown trees.

Glass and leather work

Also forming part of this extensive exhibition is a display of modern glassware and leatherwork, painted with 18th and 19th century designs as well as some ornamented bags and slippers and hand embroidered tablecloths and covers. Unfortunately all these artifacts, which are for sale, pale to insignificance next to the

real thing. A small but stunning display (an exquisite hand made dress, chased gold plated vases, trays and censers and beautiful embroidered covers) of genuine antiques has been provided by the Yapi-Kredi Bank.

The exhibition runs until Tuesday March 6.

BRAZILIAN EMBASSY

The Brazilian Embassy in Amman announces the opening of its offices, temporarily located at the Hotel Jordan Intercontinental, Room 316. Tel: 41361.

AL SALAM CONCORD CINEMA
Tel: 677420 opposite Ministry of Industry and Trade

proudly presents the strongest among world movie pictures:

VICTOR VICTORIA
in colour

BLAKE EDWARDS
VICTOR VICTORIA
The whole of Paris was talking about her. They only knew half the story.



METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PRESENTS
JULIE ANDREWS JAMES GARNER ROBERT PRESTON
BLAKE EDWARDS' "VICTOR VICTORIA"
LESLEY ANN WARREN ALEX KARRAS
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY HELEN MERRIAM LYRICS BY LESLIE BRIDGES
SCREENPLAY BY BLAKE EDWARDS PRODUCED BY BLAKE EDWARDS AND TOMY ADAMS
DIRECTED BY BLAKE EDWARDS Soundtrack Album available on MCA Records and Tapes
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PRESENTS

starring: Julie Andrews and James Garner

performances: 3:30 - 6 - 8:30 p.m.
On Thursday and Saturday, special performance at 10:30 p.m.

The cinema is fitted with modern audio visual equipment and sound effects.

Dolby stereo (Panoramic and scope screen)
Car park

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European policy dialogue with Jordan

By T.C. O'Sullivan

FEBRUARY SAW a visit to Jordan of a group of experts from the European Community (EC) whose role was to explore with Jordanian counterparts, in a wide ranging discussion, the various aspects of the co-operation agreement between Jordan and the EC.

During the visit of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to Brussels in July 1983, an initial step in establishing a dialogue between officials of the EC and Jordan was launched. The presentation by Prince Hassan highlighted several key areas where a priority was seen for co-operation and development. The discussions that took place during February in Amman are a continuation of this dialogue, where it is hoped it will be possible to focus on specific aspects of the existing co-operation and onto the possible solutions which would be most appropriate in further co-operation.

In the co-operation agreement, which was signed in

1977, provision was included for a regular review and for dialogue between the contracting parties. This was to take the form of a co-operation council which was designed to meet at a high political level. To date, this facility for dialogue through a co-operation council has not been activated in the case of Jordan because the implementation was progressing satisfactorily. The present dialogue affords alternative mechanism for review which may be more appropriate and is what can be fairly called a policy dialogue.

There are, for instance, several aspects of the agreement which relate to trade concessions which perhaps, in the past, have not been given the same weight as the financial protocol and which should now be considered with a view to their more efficient use. It is always quite important to review the general aspirations of a co-operation agreement to evaluate how appropriate they are to the needs of the country

over the last few years and indeed whether the resources which have been used to date in any way match these aspirations.

It must also be recognised that development processes, even in the short term, have a dynamic of their own which leads to new situations and, therefore, changing priorities. Projects, allocations and concepts change very rapidly, not only in priority but also in feasibility. The occasion of the discussions afforded an opportunity to review the actions to date and, based on our experience, consider:

- what has been the centre of our efforts in co-operation;
- how these actions fitted into the priorities of the country;
- how these actions satisfy the general aspirations of the co-operation agreement;
- what would now be the priorities for future action.

Jordan, perhaps, is at a particular threshold in its development. Considerable inf-

rastructure has been put into place and many of the institutions of administration and development are well established and operating satisfactorily. While it is recognised that there is considerable scope still for development, the success of various programmes, such as education, industrialisation, are the source of new pressures, as well as the source of new opportunities.

It could be argued that the greatest single domestic pressure at present on the country is the need to utilise the skills of the population by the creation of employment possibilities within the country. The pattern of employment and development within the total Arab region is changing and the ready availability of jobs for Jordanian nationals may change in scope and in quantity.

Although the potential will be great for many years, the trends must be watched with great care so that solutions and

policies can be formulated in step with those trends. However, the greatest national asset is the skilled manpower of the country and, therefore, ways must be investigated to optimise the use of this national resource in the context of the overall national plan.

This pressing national problem, therefore, was given due weight and consideration in the discussions that took place and will figure prominently in future proposals for co-operation.

In the intervening time from the signing of the co-operation agreement, the position of the EC has also been a change. There has been increasing pressure in world market places, the economic climate within the community has changed radically and there is at present plans for extensive expansion of the community which will have a bearing on many of the community's partner countries in the Mediterranean area. These facts will also have a bearing on the nature of the

future actions which can be undertaken together.

It must be noted that the development of the economic infrastructure within Jordan, as well as the nature of its relationship with other Arab countries, opens the possibilities for complementarity between Jordanian and European enterprises. Thus, the traditional pattern of partnership in co-operation may no longer be the only possibility to be considered in the shape of the next generation of co-operation agreements.

The opportunity of these discussions which will continue in the coming months provides a framework in which ideas can be exchanged on the most appropriate shape of the co-operation of the future.

Mr. O'Sullivan is delegate of the Commission of the European Community in Amman. His article originally appeared as an editorial in the EC Newsletter for February in Amman.

Voters choose

THE election campaign to fill the eight vacant seats for the East Bank in the Lower House of Parliament is supposed to be in full swing now that we are only eight days away from polling day.

Some observers say, however, that we are in fact past the hottest point of electioneering as most of the voters had made up their "votes" from the moment registration for candidacy opened a few weeks ago until it closed a few days later. With so many candidates on the list (over 100 contesting the eight parliamentary seats), almost each voter had already picked his choice — the candidate that is most closely related to the voter in family and friendship ties.

No substantial change therefore is expected in the pattern of voting, these observers contend, and the candidate with the biggest family should win.

Against such an expected backdrop, many Jordanians initially opted not to register their names as eligible voters and some of those who took the trouble to register are having second thoughts about going to the polls on March 12. But there are other reasons of course why some Jordanians have cast some doubts about the upcoming by-elections.

There is, first, the long period separating us from the last time we went to the polls in April 1967, with all the apathy and depoliticisation that this long absence of parliamentary life has wrought upon us; many citizens would simply not bother to vote or demand a vote after all these years. There is also the feeling that voting in new members of parliament would not change the balance inside the House no matter who got in, and that it would consequently be useless to vote in order to change things. And there is of course disillusionment with the candidates themselves (almost all of them repeat the same slogans and essentially say the same thing), given the absence of an institutionalised political life, represented mainly by independent and ideological parties across the political spectrum.

The sum of all this, one would guess, is that there must be something wrong about the process of parliamentary elections for this time. And maybe there is. But the mere fact that elections are to be held at all in Jordan strongly proves our sincere desire to improve the quality of our life. This desire must not be suppressed just because of a few shortcomings that we might have.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Clear European stance required

PERHAPS THE visit to Jordan by Gaston Thorn, president of the European Community Commission, stands out as a reminder that Europe is still interested in peace in the Middle East region which it is closely connected by trade and other ties. The Venice Declaration had no doubt been a step in the right direction but was not sufficient. The Europeans wish to see peace in this region and want to maintain their good relations with the Arab World. But they had unfortunately left the arena for the United States, which had colluded with Israel against the Arabs and Lebanon. As a result, Europeans now face a deteriorating situation in the region and a threat to their interests. The Arabs, of course, do not expect from the Europeans to act for them or handle their problems for them but expect them to have a clear policy in view of Israel's aggression, which endangers peace, and with regard to Washington's actions directed mainly against the interests of the Arab Nation. The Arab Nation expects from the Europeans to prove their credibility and take political and diplomatic steps towards solving the Middle East problem. They can start by removing U.S. and Israeli blockade around any solutions to the region's issues.

Al Dustour: Europe listens to unified Arabs

WE CONTINUE to hear from time to time Arab calls on European nations to play a positive role for establishing a just peace in the Middle East. The Europeans, due to their proximity to the Middle East and in view of their trade links and historical ties with the Arab Nation have been keen on helping to settle this region's problems although their work was hampered so often by the United States and its ally: Israel.

Yet we fail to see any Arab initiative that can help the Europeans move forth in a more constructive manner to solve our issues. At the Arab summit in Fez the Arab leaders drew up a proposal for settling the Middle East issue, but soon afterwards each Arab country gave a different interpretation of these proposals which had been presented to U.N. Security Council members. This retreat coupled with further differences among Arab countries and divisions among their ranks had no doubt discouraged the Europeans.

What the Arab countries need now is to restore their solidarity and strengthen their stand. Europe will listen to the Arabs only when they are united and have a common goal and objectives.

Sawt Al Shaab: Iraq defends the nation

IT SEEMS that Iraq has to face the Iranians alone as no one else is coming to its aid, and it seems that it has to continue annihilating waves of human attackers on its soil until the Iranians realise that force will not achieve their ambitions. When the Iraqis had launched their attacks and occupied Iranian territory at the start of the war they were blamed by many Arabs and were asked to pull back.

The Iraqis had attacked Iran in a bid to save Iraqi border towns and villages from continued Iranian aggression, and had succeeded for some time in achieving that goal. When the Iraqis withdrew their forces from Iranian territory, they found that the enemy had returned to bombarding Iraqi territory and civilian centres. The Iraqis seem to be determined to pursue their aggression on Iraq and intent on bombarding civilian concentrations and killing innocent people.

We can stop this war by sending Arab troops to fight alongside Iraq and force the Iranian rulers to return to their senses and so end the war. We can also bring the conflict to an end through the United Nations, which had the means of monitoring a ceasefire in preparation for peace negotiations between the two sides.

Pro-Israel 'PACs' in the U.S. getting more aggressive

By Allan C. Brownfield

As the 1984 presidential campaign approaches, there has been increasing discussion about the role being played by political action committees (PACs).

It has been argued by some observers that these committees, in effect, purchase support for their own particular special concerns and interests. Dairy farmers, for example, have three separate PACs which are said to have more than \$2 million in cash for possible use in the 1984 campaign. Ellen Haas, director of one of four consumer groups that sought a cut in dairy subsidies in 1983, said that the industry-backed bill passed by Congress is "the best bill dairy political action committees can buy." The "Wall Street Journal" reported that since Jan. 1, 1981, the dairymen have given \$1,343,868 to 293 members, or more than two-thirds of the House of Representatives. Of those who received dairy money, 194 voted with the dairymen against any cut in price supports. Only 56 members

have been formed around the country in recent years. In 1982, for example, newly formed Jewish and pro-Israel PACs were credited with playing an instrumental role in several races, including a defeat of Rep. Paul Findlay (R-Ill.), one of the few congressmen who had urged U.S. negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Mr. Isikoff notes that "...plans for the new PAC first crystallised during a political action seminar conducted by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee ... in Richmond."

Writing in "The Wall Street Journal," John J. Fialka reports that, "During the last congressional election, Jews used over 30 separate political action committees to give favoured candidates \$1.67 million, more than in any prior election. They focused heavily on members of committees that approve U.S. aid to the Middle East. According to an analysis of records of the Federal Election Commission, the combined contribution of these groups

Israel PACs are gearing up for their most active year. "The New York Times" of Jan. 3, 1984 reported that, "Senator Charles H. Percy is spending art of the Congressional recess campaigning in Illinois for a fourth term. His Washington office said that much of the Republican's effort was devoted to winning a primary in which he is expected to be opposed by Rep. Tom Corcoran. Particularly troublesome, according to a senior member of the Senator's Washington staff, is an effort by supporters of Mr. Corcoran to portray Mr. Percy, who is chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, as an enemy of Israel. One mailing to voters by the Corcoran committee describes Mr. Percy as 'Israel's most powerful adversary' in the Senate."

Consider a letter distributed under the signature of Louis A. Morgan of Northfield, Illinois to select Jewish mailing lists across the country. He writes: "Dear Friend, Right now you and I can help defeat Israel's most powerful adversary in the United States Senate. His name is Charles Percy ... He's up for re-election next year and, if we start today, we can beat him. More than any other officeholder in Washington, Percy has worked to destroy the special relationship between the United States and Israel ... In 1978 Percy led the battle for Senate approval of the sale of F-15 fighter planes to Saudi Arabia. He followed up on that outrage three years later when he pushed through the AWACS sale. Last summer Percy — almost singlehandedly — blocked the shipment to Israel of 75 F-16 aircraft, planes that were promised to Israel in 1978."

Mr. Morgan declares that, "In 1984, we have a unique opportunity to defeat Charles Percy. And I know the man who can do it. His name is Thomas Corcoran ... He's running against Percy for a list of reasons ... But high on that list is Percy's opposition to U.S.-Israeli friendship ... Tom says, 'Israel is an ally, an invaluable friend of the United States ... Tom backs up his words with action ... His voting record on matters relating to Israeli security is 100 per cent.'"

Mr. Morgan boasts that, "Last year, I helped lead the campaign to defeat Paul Findlay ... Percy is not invincible ... Percy will have the advantage of his pro-Arab record. And, you can bet that electing Percy will be the top priority of the Saudi crowd and their corporate friends."

Appeal for Boschwitz

Yet another Illinois political effort against Senator Percy has been launched in behalf of the candidacy of Democrat Alex Seith. A solicitation letter went out to Jewish contributors across the country from Dr. Paul Hurwitz of Chicago, described as "honorary president of the Zionist organization of America."

Dr. Hurwitz writes: "In 1966, I helped organize Jewish support for Charles Percy's Senate campaign. I helped again in '72 and '78. But I won't help him today. The past four years have shown me that Senator Percy is not a true friend of Israel."

Among the reasons for supporting Alex Seith's candidacy, declares Dr. Hurwitz, is that, "he is a long time supporter of Israel as America's only trusted ally in the Middle East. He publicly opposed the sale of the F-15 fighter planes and the sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia. He publicly supported the delivery of the 75 F-16 aircraft to Israel."

Another letter of solicitation has gone out to Jewish mailing lists across the country in behalf of Senator Rudy Boschwitz (R-



Vinn). A letter signed by Senator Lowell Weicker (R-Conn.) states: "Rudy Boschwitz doesn't claim to be a friend of Israel. As a Jew who fled Nazi Germany, he knows what Israel means. But on the floor of the U.S. Senate, he fights for aid to Israel as an American who appreciates the strategic value of Israel to the United States ... In the Senate, the whole tone of the relationship between Israel and the U.S. is set in the subcommittee that deals with the Middle East. That same subcommittee determines the level of aid our country gives to Israel. Rudy Boschwitz is chairman of that subcommittee."

Also writing in behalf of Senator Boschwitz in the same solicitation package is Senator Robert Packwood (R-Oregon). He writes: "In 1981, I led the fight on the Senate floor against the sale of AWACS fighter planes to Saudi Arabia. It was a difficult fight ... I relied on one Senate colleague more than any other ... Now this friend and colleague needs our help. The friend of whom I speak is Rudy Boschwitz."

An article reprinted from "The Jerusalem Post" about Senator Boschwitz's friendship for Israel is also included in this appeal for funds. Author Wolf Blitzer declares: "Compared to what the U.S. has to spend every year to defend its other allies in Western Europe and the Far East, U.S. economic and military assistance to Israel is a real bargain. That's the view of Republican Sen. Rudy Boschwitz of Minnesota ... 'It is a mezzeyeh,' he insisted, using the Yiddish word for bargain."

Helped him survive

The various disparate pro-Israel PACs have now been joined by NatPac (The National PAC), which raised over \$1 million in its first year of operation and has had a policy of giving \$5,000 in apiece to friends of Israel in Congress.

In a recent solicitation appeal, NatPac chairman Marvin Josephson writes, "Mobil Oil has a PAC. Bechtel has a PAC. Fluor has a PAC. Boeing and Amoco and Grumman all have PACs. Yet those of us who believe deeply in Israel's survival have not had in this country's long-term stake in Israel's survival have not had a nationwide PAC until now ... The profits of many large multinational corporations are closely tied to Petrodollar interests. And, corporate PAC dollars are helping fund a long-range effort to discredit Israel in the eyes of Congress ... The UJA, the ADL, the American Jewish Committee and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), are legally barred from forming a PAC. Therefore, not one of these fine organizations can make contributions to Congressional or Presidential candidates. The National PAC can and does."

The charter members of NatPac listed in its literature include Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Rabbi Walter S. Wurzbarger, Theodore Mann and Rabbi Judah Nadich, Executive Director of NatPac is Robert Altman, who formerly worked with AIPAC. Morris Amity, another former staff member of AIPAC, has formed the Washington Political Action Committee which contributed \$89,075 to 178 candidates in the last election.

In 1982, pro-Israel PACs tried to defeat the late Rep. Clement Zablocki (D-Wisc.), who was chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. His opponent, state Senator Lynn Adelman received \$9,350 from 13 pro-Israel PACs. A letter soliciting funds for Mr. Adelman among the Jewish community in Milwaukee declared: "Adelman's election not only means a friend of Israel in Congress, but also that the House Foreign Relations Committee will have a friend of Israel as its new chairman." The second "friend of Israel" was Rep. Dante Fascell (D-Fla.), who has now become chairman as a result of Rep. Zablocki's death. When he was the second-ranking Democrat on the committee, he received \$43,250 from 22 pro-Israel PACs. He says that these funds helped him to survive a serious challenge from a former television newsmen in his district.

Disturbing to all Americans

The manner in which political action committees have openly identified themselves as "Jewish" as they pursue candidates on the basis of a single issue relating to the interests of Israel should be disturbing to all Americans, particularly those Americans of the Jewish faith in whose name they speak. In 1972, Senator Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.) declared that, "nothing could be more disastrous for Israel and the six million Jews of the United States if the president of the United States were elected on what is good for Israel." At that same time, the Central Conference of American Rabbis joined with other national Jewish groups in serving notice that "no Jewish institution or Jewish leader could speak for the American Jewish community in advocating the election of either of the presidential candidates in the forthcoming elections." Rabbi David Polish, president of the CCAR, said, "Jews have a right to participate vigorously in the American democratic process." But he warned that such support must clearly indicate that the advocate was speaking as an individual and not as a representative of a "Jewish voting block."

Interestingly, more than a decade ago the president of B'nai B'rith deplored political campaigns that "imprudently and

condescendingly" approach the American Jewish community as a "one issue" group of voters. A "singular emphasis" on Israel, he argued, ignores the diversity of issues to which the majority of Jewish voters react. The B'nai B'rith board adopted a resolution viewing "with disfavour" the formation of "Jewish committees" on behalf of any candidate. The resolution said that "we would remind candidates of all parties that Jews do not vote as a bloc or in response to any single issue."

Have the leaders of major Jewish organisations now decided, in 1984, that American Jews will indeed cast their ballots and contribute their dollars on the basis of a "single issue"? Those who have embarked upon the creation of this multiplicity of pro-Israel PACs seem to think so.

Interests of a foreign state

It is not outside of the current law for a group of Americans to band together to form a political action committee in behalf of a foreign government. It does, however, violate the spirit of a common citizenship when one group of Americans so identifies itself with the interests, purposes and goals of a foreign state that it views its role in the political process as advancing the interests of that state rather than of their own. It is also a corruption of Judaism as a religion for some who speak in its name to make themselves little more than political advocates of the interests of a sovereign state not their own.

Nineteen eighty four will see increasing pressure upon the American political process by the proliferation of well-funded pro-Israel PACs which, without any authorisation to do so, will speak in the name of Jewish Americans.

It is an unfortunate and potentially dangerous alteration of our common political life and one which bodes ill for all of us.

Allan C. Brownfield writes a syndicated column from Washington, D.C. Formerly a member of the staff of the U.S. Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and assistant to the Research Director of the House Republican Conference, Mr. Brownfield holds a B.A. and J.D. from the college of William and Mary. He has served on the faculties of St. Stephen's Episcopal School in Alexandria and the University of Maryland. The author of three books, Mr. Brownfield also serves as Associate Editor of The Lincoln Review and contributing Editor of America's Future. He contributed this article to Middle East Perspective, Springfield, USA.

The 'Third World' is the cigarette's last frontier

The cigarette industry first relied on men, then women, then teenagers. It is now trying to open markets in the Third World, as industrialised nations seem to be kicking the habit. Besides the health hazards, smoking can also lead to hunger and even to massive deforestation. The Third World, aided by the World Health Organisation, had declared virtual war on the cigarette.

By John Madeley

WINNIPEG, Canada — The Third World — aided by some of the world's top lung and heart specialists — has declared virtual war on the tobacco industry.

"The Third World is the tobacco industry's last frontier. Smoking has moved from men, to women, to teenagers. There is no place to go now but to developing countries", said Kurt Baumgartner, secretary-general of the Fifth World Conference on Smoking and Health held here recently.

The conference, attended by government ministers, health workers and doctors, passed a series of strong motions against smoking. Swaziland Health Minister Samuel Hynd summed up the meeting's feelings: "To date we have treated too softly: war is now on".

Whether the meeting's words will have any effect on the tobacco habit is an open question, but the gathering did put the problems more clearly than ever before, noting smoking's disastrous effects not only on health, but on nutrition in poor countries and even on the world's forests.

Tobacco is the world's seventh largest crop in terms of land covered, behind wheat, rice, maize, soybeans, cotton, and coffee. It occupies over four million hectares (10 million acres) — an area about the size of Switzerland.

Each year, a million lives are lost prematurely around the world due to smoking. The health of millions more suffers from heart disease, lung cancer and respiratory diseases.

Experts here noted that the health hazards of smoking are now so well documented that the seven large multinational companies which control the industry scarcely bother to deny them. Instead, they concentrate on the argument that people should be free to smoke if they want to.

People in the wealthier nations are choosing not to. Cigarette sales have declined by about 2 per cent a year in most Western countries over the past decade. One in every four Britons who smoked 10 years ago has given up the habit. Two out of every three Britons do not smoke, and non-smoking is rapidly becoming the norm of social behaviour in many European countries.

Hit by declining sales in the "North", the tobacco companies are turning to the developing world, where the hazards of smoking are less well publicised. Here, they use hard-sell advertising of the sort banned in many "Northern" countries.

They are also apparently selling in the Third World cigarettes with higher tar and nicotine contents than the same brands in the "North". The Philippines National Cancer Control Centre

found that tar levels in four international brands were twice as high in the Philippines as in Britain.

During the 1970s, Third World cigarette sales increased by about 2 per cent a year. In 1980, 33 per cent more Africans smoked than in 1970, 24 per cent more Latin Americans and 23 per cent more Asians. The people of developing countries are beginning to copy a "Northern" habit which is being dropped in the "North".

Not all Third World governments are sure they want to discourage smoking. Some 100 developing countries grow tobacco, a crop which earns them foreign exchange and, because tobacco can be easily grown on small farms, gives many subsistence farmers most of their cash income.

This fact has divided the United Nations over the issue. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation encourages the growth of tobacco, while the World Health Organisation (WHO) believes that if countries include in their arithmetic the growing costs of treating — or not treating — smoking-related diseases, then the benefits of tobacco are less than they seem. WHO says that alternative crops are available.

There are other hidden costs. A survey in Bangladesh found that people on a low income who smoked only five cigarettes a day had to reduce food purchases by 15 per cent to pay for the tobacco. This reduced their daily calorie intake by almost 300 from an already low 2,000. More smoking in many countries will mean more hunger.

It will also mean fewer trees. Tobacco curing uses an enormous amount of wood. Though this varies with the type of woodland, it is generally reckoned in Tanzania that curing a hectare of tobacco requires a hectare of trees. About 12 per cent of the trees that are cut around the world are cut to cure tobacco.

Though cigarette sales are increasing in the Third World, more governments there are passing smoking control laws. In 1976, some 20 countries — almost all of

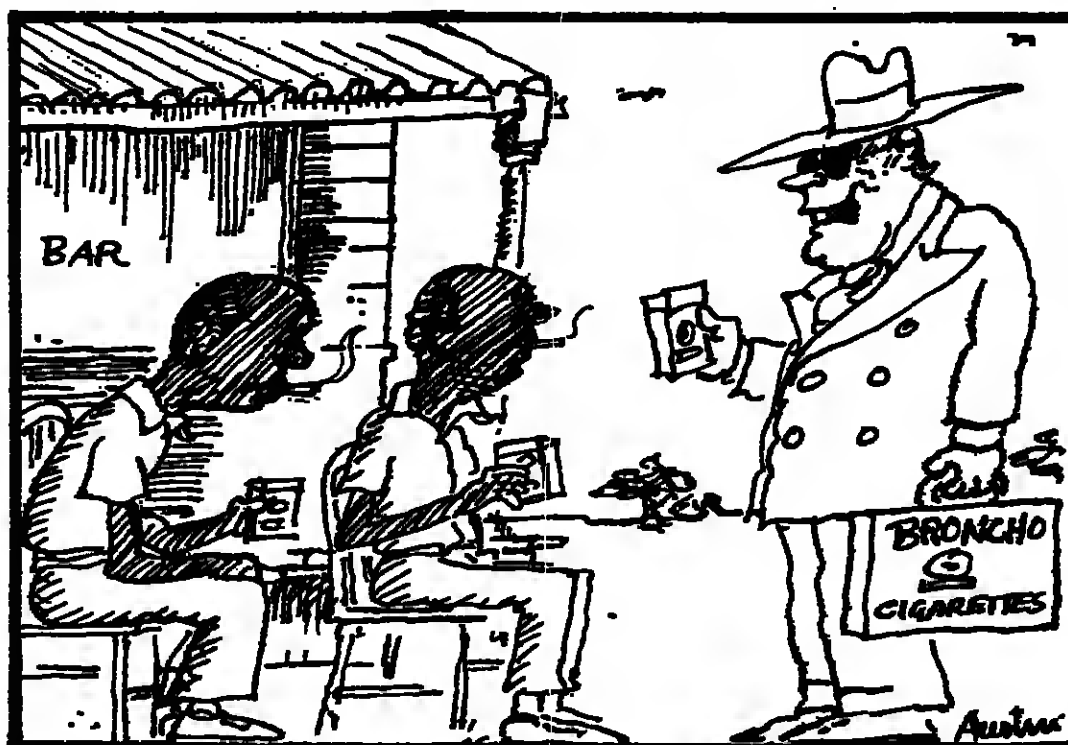
them industrialised — had such laws. "Today the number has grown to 60", according to WHO Director General Dr. Halfdan Mahler.

More countries are expected to follow suit after when WHO had published an expert committee report on smoking control strategies that has been one of the most outspoken ever to come from a U.N. agency.

It warns governments that unless they control smoking they will face an epidemic of smoking-

related diseases. It recommends "unequivocally" that all tobacco advertising and sales promotion be prohibited and that countries back this ban with public information and education programmes.

WHO has its own reasons for a strong stand. If smoking is still around in 17 years, WHO proclaimed goal of "Health for all by the year 2000" will itself fall victim to this biggest single preventable cause of disease. — Earthscan feature.



They offer you a Western lifestyle. You'll also have a good chance of dying of a Western disease.

Randa Habib's Corner

Keep the park clean

FOR THOSE who enjoy walking or jogging, the only place that fulfills their needs is the park of the Sports City. Being far from the traffic and congestion of the streets, this park is the only one of its kind in Amman and is the ideal place for recreation. At least this is the case in theory but in practice things are different.

Readers have called me to complain that "their" park has become a giant parking lot, noisy and polluted; taxis have found this short cut from the main gate to the other side, army vehicles and young men who come to play football and who are too lazy to walk all parks their cars inside.

The Sports City has a parking lot where all those who go there, including the employees, can park their cars. Furthermore, from the parking lot people are within a walking distance from all the facilities. Besides, the young football players or fans should not be afraid of a few minutes' walk. As a result and because people do not bother, the park becomes a place heavily congested with traffic.

In all the countries of the world cars are not allowed entry to parks which were made for the recreation of the public. A park where cars are racing is surely not a good one. As there is no other but the park of the Sports City for jogging away from the congestion and pollution of the streets, we should be sensible enough to keep it calm and refrain from using it as a racing track.

Cuban cigars still retain flavour

By Colin McSeveny
Reuters

TRINIDAD, Cuba — Twenty five years of revolutionary changes in Cuba have left largely untouched this Caribbean island's age-old tradition of cigar-making.

Fidel Castro's Communist government replaced the old tobacco barons as owners but the brands, the factories and, in many cases, the deft fingers that roll the cigars are the same.

Cigars are probably Cuba's best-known product and the original natives of the island cultivated and smoked tobacco long before Christopher Columbus set foot here in 1492.

Other famous names have followed the habit. Winston Churchill, Britain's prime minister during World War II, was seldom seen without a fat Havana and Dr. Castro himself is still identified with the cigars he smoked during the early, well-publicised days of the 1959 Revolution.

"Needless to say, the flavour of our cigars is just as good as ever, the best in the world," said Eduardo Juvel, manager of a typical Cuban cigar factory in the central town of Trinidad.

Few connoisseurs would disagree and, despite a strict American trade embargo, world demand for Cuban cigars still outstrips supply.

Trade sources said tobacco earned Cuba nearly \$200 million last year, putting it among the top handful of hard currency earners such as sugar and nickel. The factory which Mr. Juvel runs produces mainly for domestic

consumption, using a strong blend of tobacco grown in the central region of Villa Clara.

The export cigars which usually carry the Havana label are slightly weaker, more subtle blends which suit foreign tastes and stand up better to travel," he said.

The transformation of tobacco into cigars starts with a long drying process and then the delicate flattening of the leaves when they arrive at the factory.

It takes about fourteen tonnes of tobacco to make the one million cigars which the Trinidad factory produces every year.

The best leaves are separated and used as capas (wrappers) to be rolled around the different kinds of tobacco which are mixed to produce the desired blend of colour, strength and burning power.

"Our climate and soil happen to be ideal for tobacco though we don't know why... it's a bit like whisky in Scotland, I suppose," Mr. Juvel, 40 years in the trade, told Reuters.

All the drying, cutting and rolling is done by hand in the Trinidad factory where 55 men and women, many smoking their own products, hunch over tables littered with tobacco leaves.

No tobacco factory would be complete without the traditional "lector" who reads aloud from newspaper articles, magazines and novels to entertain the workers.

The Trinidad lector was once arrested for reading subversive material to the workforce during General Fulgencio Batista's rule, and tobacco workers throughout the country were regarded suspiciously by the old dictatorship because of their radical views.

Diamond mines help Botswana tolerate impact of drought

By Peter Gregson
Reuters

GABORONE, — In Botswana's sweltering capital of Gaborone, the talk these days is of diamonds and drought.

Set at the very heart of southern Africa, this sparsely-populated land is an incongruous oasis of peace and prosperity in a region battered by troubles.

Perched between its giant white-ruled neighbour South Africa to the south and more radical black states to the north, Botswana is politically stable and economically booming.

But it is a country so parched by drought that its only brewery recently advertised urging its customers to drink less, a move aimed at saving water rather than promoting health.

Such is the importance of rain that the Setswana word for it,

"pula", also means money, hello and cheers.

For the third successive year, the all-important seasonal rains have been meagre, leaving dried-up watercourses etched like raw scars on the desert scrub that makes up 80 per cent of the land.

But, Botswana is coping with its troubles.

As its similarly stricken neighbours were pleading for international aid, Botswana's buoyant economy recorded a healthy balance of payments surplus, record amounts of foreign exchange and a level of growth to be envied by mightier states.

Botswana, as people here are called, are the first to agree that this has been partly due to luck.

The country is blessed with three rich diamond mines, whose gem quality is among the best in the world. After two depressed years, the industrial world's move

out of economic recession last year meant diamond sales began to sparkle again.

So much so that export earnings from diamonds doubled between 1982 and 1983 to about 410 million pula (\$370 million), two thirds of Botswana's export earnings.

Diamond production of 11 million carats — a million more than forecast — put Botswana in the top three world producers, along with South Africa and the Soviet Union.

But luck has nothing to do with the prudent pragmatism that marks the diplomatic and political style of Botswana — a relaxed and friendly multiracial democracy with one million people scattered around a country the size of France.

About 60,000 live in the capital, Gaborone, where the bush edges up to the back of the parliament

building and red dirt roads go off at right angles to the central shopping plaza.

Botswana is also rare in Africa in that it has an impeccable human rights record. "You know, there's not a single political prisoner here," said several sources. "Where else in Africa can you say that?"

Two opposition parties hold three of the 32 seats in the national assembly and there is a lively opposition-oriented weekly newspaper. A government daily, a four-page broadsheet printed half in English and half in Setswana, is handed out free in Gaborone's tree-lined central mall.

But ministers and senior civil servants agree that beneath the surface prosperity there are fundamental problems.

Foremost is unemployment. Vice-President And Finance Minister Peter Mmusi said in his rec-

ent budget speech that even current high job growth rates could only provide work for 12,000 of the 20,000 people who enter the labour market yearly.

The drought's effects have been felt worst in the bush where even normal rainfall barely sustains the small farmers and their families that make up 75 per cent of the population.

Food production has fallen drastically in the past three years and a recent scientific study that predicted the drought could last a decade is being taken seriously.

It is now widely accepted that half Botswana's population receives some sort of food aid and the country's urbanisation rate is described as the highest in Africa.

"The man in the bush whose crops have failed, pastures shrivelled and cattle died has nothing left," said one Western diplomat. "He drifts towards the nearest

hand-out station and that hit of the land he had nurtured reverts to scrub."

Gaborone houses the modest headquarters of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), a nine-nation group of underdeveloped black states trying to reduce economic dependence on South Africa.

There are no formal diplomatic ties between the two, but Botswana — like fellow SADCC members Swaziland and Lesotho — is linked in a customs union with South Africa.

Most major businesses in Botswana are directly or indirectly owned by South Africa, but President Quett Masire is pragmatic.

"They know what we think of their apartheid. But what can we do? We are no match for them in terms of strength, so what would it pay us to upset them?" he asked with a shrug.

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South Korean wins first IBF world featherweight title

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's Oh Min-Gun scored a second-round knockout victory over Indonesian boxer Arter to win the first International Boxing Federation (IBF) world featherweight title here Sunday.

The scheduled 15-round fight of the recently-established IBF was over just one minute 55 seconds into the second round when Oh Min-Gun sent the Indonesian to the canvas with a strong left hook to the body.

The 21-year-old Korean, one year younger than Arter, had delighted the partisan home crowd a few minutes earlier by flooring the Indonesian near the end of the first round with a flurry of blows from all angles after cornering

him.

Arter managed to get to his feet at the count of five and the bell saved him from further punishment.

Oh Min-Gun began throwing punches at his opponent non-stop from the start of the second round, forcing him into the ropes and then unleashing a barrage of unanswered blows to the head and body of the helpless Indonesian.

Finally, a power-packed left hook had him on the canvas again and unable to get up in time.

Oh Min-Gun told reporters afterwards that he took advantage of Korea's cold weather to carry the fight to Arter before he had time to get used to it, knowing the visitor came from a milder climate.

He said: "While I was weighing him out in the first round I realised he had powerful punches, so I tried to batter him before he began to find the range."

The dejected Arter did not speak to reporters.

Oh Min-Gun, who is also the Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation (OPBF) featherweight champion, improved his professional record to 15 wins, five by knockouts, against two defeats.

Navratilova, Lloyd clash in final

NEW YORK (R) — Martina Navratilova survived a stiff challenge from her doubles partner Pam Shriver and Chris Evert Lloyd beat Barbara Potter Saturday to reach the final of the \$500,000 women's U.S. indoor tennis circuit playoffs.

The top-seeded Navratilova rallied from 3-0 down in the first set after losing her service twice to win 7-6 (7-2). 6-4. Lloyd swept past Potter 6-4, 6-1 in the all-American semifinals.

The winner of the final, which will be the first women's match over the best of five sets for 82 years, will receive \$125,000. Navratilova is strongly favoured having beaten Lloyd eight times in a row.

"I'm curious and excited in anticipation of playing in a five-set match," said Lloyd who is ranked second in the world behind Navratilova. "I hope for everybody's sake that it is not a three-set smear."

The third-seeded Shriver started superbly against Navratilova, hitting seven winners in breaking service in the opening game. She then held service after two deuces and broke again to lead 3-0. But Navratilova retrieved the breaks and led 5-0 in the tiebreaker before taking it 7-2.

Navratilova held service throughout the second set, losing

only one point on her first four service games. She achieved the decisive break in the fifth game on an angled service-return winner and a backhand pass.

"I was a little too eager at the start and hitting too hard," Navratilova said. "Then I began to let up and kept the ball in play. The good thing is that I was tested and should be ready for the final."

"I was very encouraged despite the defeat," said Shriver, who has beaten Navratilova only three times in 21 meetings. "It was the first time in a year and a half that I honestly thought I could beat her. I could kick myself for not pun-

ishing some of those volleys when I was ahead in the first set."

Lloyd, who lost to Navratilova in the final of a tournament in east Hanover, New Jersey, last week, took the opening set against Potter with a service break in the third game. She then opened up a 4-0 lead in the second set and was never in trouble.

The unseeded Potter hampered in eight aces, but also committed seven double-faults.

Navratilova and Shriver later combined to win the doubles, beating Britain's Jo Durie and Ann Kiyomura of the United States 6-3, 6-1.

McEnroe defeats Curren

MADRID (R) — John McEnroe beat South African Kevin Curren 6-2, 7-6 here Saturday night to reach the final of the \$200,000 Madrid Indoor Tennis Grand Prix.

McEnroe never looked in trouble in the first set and broke Curren's service twice to win in only 33 minutes.

In the second set both players held their service and although Curren built up a 3-0 lead in the tie-break, McEnroe stormed back to win it 7-4.

McEnroe now meets the winner of the other semifinal between fellow-American Vitas Gerulaitis and Czechoslovakia's Tomas Smid.

In the first doubles semifinal, Americans Fritz Buehning and Ferdi Taygan beat Switzerland's Markus Günthardt and Henrik Sundstrom of Sweden 6-3, 6-4.

McEnroe, who learned he had been fined \$2,500 for insulting behaviour during the quarterfinal match against fellow-American Bill Scanlon.

Quick of New Zealand wins Nagoya marathon

TOKYO (AP) — Glensy Quick of New Zealand won the Nagoya international women's marathon Sunday, beating American Ellen Hart by three minutes.

The 26-year-old Quick broke away from a duel with Hart in the last nine kilometres (5.6 miles) and finished in 2 hours 43 minutes 25 seconds on the 42.195-km (26-mile 385-yard) route in Nagoya, central Japan.

The 25-year-old Hart was second in 2:37:24 in a field of 59 runners competing in clear 8-degree (46F) weather. They included 20 from the United States, Britain, Ireland, West Germany, New Zealand, Hungary, Canada, the Netherlands, India, Mexico

and Belgium.

Magda Ilands, 34, of Belgium was third in 2:37:57. She was followed by Eriko Asai of Japan in 2:38:31, Ilona Zsalk of Hungary in 2:38:32 and Joyce Smith of Britain in 2:38:55.

Carey May of Ireland, one of the world's top women runners, and Maria Trujillo of Mexico withdrew from the race because of pains in their legs, an official said.

Ngairé Drake of New Zealand was seventh in 2:39:56 and Yn Hasegawa of Japan was eighth in 2:41:27.

Nasae Sasaki and Akemi Masuda, Japan's two top women marathon runners, did not compete in the race.

Walliser claims downhill title

MONT STE-ANNE, Quebec (R) — Holly Beth Flanders ended a two-year drought for U.S. women in the World Ski Cup downhill by winning the last race of the season here Saturday.

Switzerland's Maria Walliser captured the overall downhill title.

On a glider's course that suited Flanders ideally, the 26-year-old from Deerfield, New Hampshire, made light of the few icy turns and let out a whoop of delight after crossing the finish line.

Flanders, twice a downhill winner in 1982 but sadly out of form

since then, had been considering retirement at the end of this season. "Now, I'll think about it this spring," she said.

Second, with her best result of the year, was France's Marie-Luce Waldmeier. Austrian Sylvia Eder was third.

Walliser finished a lowly 13th but that was enough to give her the overall World Cup women's downhill title after only three seasons on the Swiss team.

Her closest challenger for the title, Irene Epple of West Germany, finished 19th in the 5th women's field.

WBC fight will not last long, say top heavyweights

LAS VEGAS (R) — Americans Greg Page and Tim Witherspoon clash for the vacant World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight championship here on Friday and both agree it won't last long.

"He'll be gone by the third round," says Page, the WBC's number one contender. "I say it and I mean it."

"I expect him to be out of there

by the seventh," says Witherspoon, the number two challenger.

The title has been vacant since Larry Holmes of the United States relinquished it late last year.

While the undefeated Holmes is generally acknowledged to be the best heavyweight in the world, the once-defeated Page and Witherspoon are next in line.

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(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Banker sees major crisis coming in U.S. economy

YORK (R) — Mr. Felix Ayn, an influential bank-born merchant banker played a key role in saving New York from bankruptcy a decade ago, is deeply worried about the American economy.

He fears the current strong recovery may create as many problems as it solves, and is concerned about the country's inability to address its major social and economic problems.

He believes the problem of the federal budget deficit, which the Reagan administration is projecting at \$180 billion for the 1985 financial year, must be addressed immediately.

"If we do not do something about it now during the recovery, we are going to have to do something about it in recession, when we will face bigger and bigger borrowings," he said.

Mr. Ayn, who was born in Austria 55 years ago and came to the United States in 1942 when his family fled the Nazis, believes the U.S. must do more than just move from crisis to crisis on the economic front if it wishes to maintain its world position.

He is one of the primary advocates of the idea that the U.S. government must begin to formulate a national industrial policy, following the models of West Germany and Japan.

of industrial policy," he said, "is the interpretation of the anti-trust (monopoly) laws that permits Texaco to buy Getty Oil for \$11 billion, which will lead to a massive concentration of the oil industry, with the majors buying up the independents."

Despite the hundreds of billions of dollars that will be borrowed to finance this concentration, he said, "not one barrel of oil will be produced."

"This is just not rational," he said, "when we are not oil independent, when we are abandoning nuclear plants unfinished, when we are not taxing gasoline."

On the other hand, he points out, the government is preventing mergers in the steel industry, deals that with a management-labor-government plan could build new plants, retrain displaced workers and shorten the length of time in which the industry might need protection from foreign imports.

"Anti-trust (prevention of monopolies) is an industrial policy, but it is no longer a viable vehicle for dealing with the modern world," he said.

Mr. Ayn believes that the Democratic Party will include some form of industrial policy plan in its platform for November's presidential elections, but he says he does not think the United States will be politically ready to adopt it for some time.

Florida bank fails

WASHINGTON (R) — A Florida bank, All-American National Bank of Virginia Gardens, has failed and its liabilities have been assumed by another Florida bank, Capital Bank of North Bay Village, the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) said.

The Fed, the U.S. central bank, said in a statement Saturday night that pending expected court approval, All-American Bank would re-open on Monday as a branch of Capital Bank.

An official of the Office of Comptroller of the Currency, which closed All-American Bank, said the bank had accumulated bad loans and run out of capital.

The Fed said depositors of the failed bank would automatically become depositors of Capital Bank and deposit liabilities would be protected under existing U.S. government insurance programs.

It said Capital Bank assumed about \$11.4 million in deposits and other liabilities from the failed bank.

Other details of the bank's losses were not immediately available.

Egypt initials oil search accord

CAIRO (R) — Egypt Sunday initialled a \$49 million agreement for oil exploration in northern Sinai with the French company Total Orient, a spokesman for the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC) said.

Total Orient pledged to spend the \$49 million over 78 months and agreed to pay \$1 million as a bonus for signing the agreement, he said.

The company will explore in an area covering 2,400 square kilometres, the spokesman added.

If oil is found, the French company and Egypt will share the production on a 50-50 basis, he said.

Any oil agreement must be ratified by the Egyptian parliament before it is formally signed.

Meanwhile, Egypt's oil output has reached 780,000 barrels per day (b/d), an increase of 30,000 b/d over last year's average production, a spokesman for the EGPC said Sunday.

Egypt exports a third of its crude oil, a crucial source of hard currency, and sells it at world spot market prices.

Output from oil fields is on target to reach one million barrels per day by 1985, oil officials said.

Poland probes industries

WARSAW (R) — The Polish government has ordered an investigation of key industries after poor results this year, the official press said Saturday.

Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski and his cabinet made the decision Friday after voicing concern that serious obstacles hindered Poland's drive to export more to the West so that it can repay its \$28 billion foreign debt.

The newspaper Zycie Warszawy said the cabinet ordered officials to investigate the performance of enterprises having a key role in the national economy, a reference to manufacturing and other industries central to Poland's export effort.

In January, exports to the West dropped by 4.8 per cent from their level in January 1983.

Officials said sales of engineering products, the most important sector, had been especially low.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime is excellent for all sorts of new conditions in which you can effectively pioneer. The evening finds a possible break-up in conditions, but go along with it without fighting.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Getting into new ventures during the afternoon can bring greater advancement, so study them early. Don't make radical changes.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Private talks with those you like can bring fine results during the daytime. Do nothing in the evening that could irritate your mate.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Try a different tact at usual employment. Be by yourself tonight. Take time for shopping. Study the future.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Your regular work requires a little uplift, so employ more enthusiasm. Know what a higher-up expects of you.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get out to some new place where you can find inspiration. Steer clear of one who depresses you. Your hunches are fine during the day.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Your newspaper is full of good ideas from which you can profit. Try to please the one you love quickly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have to state your ideas clearly if you want the cooperation of another. The evening requires care and caution in all things.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Begin the work week properly by being more enthusiastic about the work you have to do and get much better results than usual.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study recreational affairs and know which you will enjoy the most after work. Go along with the plans of your mate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day to improve the situation at home and be happier there. Not a good evening to have guests in.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get busy at career work and show that you are dynamic and get fine results. Talk no risks with your good mate.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to March 20) Be more optimistic and make your life brighter. Go to an expert for good ideas. Avoid one who may have an eye on your assets.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will be very aware of whatever is going on around him, or her and want to get into everything, but take time to teach to complete one thing before taking on another. A very good mind here.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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Morocco exempts farmers from tax until year 2000

RABAT (R) — King Hassan announced Saturday Moroccan farmers will be exempt from income tax until the year 2000 in an attempt to shield them from the worst effects of a severe drought.

Last year's harvest was also poor, and the outlook is gloomy unless heavy rainfall comes before summer to replenish water reserves.

The droughts, which forced Morocco to import large quantities of cereals, contributed to its present financial crisis.

Last year Morocco began negotiations to reschedule its foreign debt estimated at over \$11 billion, and embarked on an austerity programme.

Congressmen urge aid to Africa

WASHINGTON (R) — A bipartisan group of 96 U.S. congressmen urged President Reagan Sunday to take emergency action to send food to 24 needy African countries.

Representative Byron Dorgan, who organised the group, said the United States must move quickly to prevent a repetition of the 1973 Sahel famine, which killed thousands of people and hundreds of thousands of livestock.

Mr. Dorgan said: "We can't sit by and let millions of people die from hunger when our own food bins are overflowing... many nations can send guns and other weapons to these poor countries, but few can match the surplus food aid of the United States."

The group urged Mr. Reagan in a letter to rush food shipments already approved for distribution, use 300,000 tons of grain in the emergency wheat reserve, work with Congress to approve additional food aid, and draw on the \$50 million in borrowing authority for the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.

Gold boom could make China leading producer

PEKING (R) — China is enjoying a gold boom and could become one of the world's leading producers if it can make its mining industry more efficient, according to Western experts.

Mr. Michael Beckett, executive director of the British-based Multinational Consolidated Gold Fields, said China produced about 45 tonnes of gold a year and could double this by the mid-1990s to become the world's fourth or fifth biggest producer.

Much of China's gold is produced by peasants who rushed to open small new mines and pan in remote streams after the price the state pays for the precious mineral was raised from 95 to 406 yuan (about \$50 to \$200) an ounce in 1980.

The average amount of gold produced by each peasant is tiny as extraction methods are generally primitive. But with several million individuals involved, it amounts to a boom.

There has also been a huge jump in domestic demand as Chinese are now permitted to buy gold jewellery again after such items were denounced as "capitalist" during the Maoist cultural revolution of 1966-76.

Handicraft stores in many cities now sell gold rings and necklaces costing up to 1,000 yuan (\$500) each and there seems to be no shortage of customers despite the low wages of the average Chinese worker.

Western experts said the main obstacles to a further rise in output were poor management and gross over-manning, problems faced by all Chinese industry.

"The problem is there is no profit motive (in state mines). The principle is if there's gold it must be produced, but mines are totally divorced from any kind of economic control," one expert said.

Miners, like most Chinese workers, are protected by the Maoist system which makes it almost impossible to sack even the most idle employee.

Although efforts are being made to reform the system, it remains a major obstacle to increasing gold output, experts said.

The Chinese gold industry faced few technical problems, apart from a limited choice of explosives and insufficient knowledge of developments abroad, they added.

Chinese gold output figures are secret, as in most communist countries, partly because of close military involvement in the industry.

The official media release some sketchy figures but Western experts were sceptical of reports that output has climbed by an average of 9.8 per cent annually since 1976.

He said output may be rising at about five per cent a year, but it was hard to judge because of a lack of data.

Mr. Beckett told Reuters the average Chinese gold mine produced only one to three tonnes annually, and the largest he had seen an output of only five tonnes.

Experts said only a small fraction of China's total area had been surveyed with modern techniques and there might be considerable scope for foreign companies to prospect for gold using computers and advanced sensing devices.

One industry source said the most rewarding project would probably be a joint venture mine, but he added: "I can see political problems there. The Chinese don't want foreigners to control China's wealth."

The British company Davy McKee has conducted a feasibility study for increasing output at two mines in Shandong, probably China's biggest gold-producing province, while Wright Engineers of Canada has agreed to expand a third mine in the region.

But the feasibility study made in 1980 is yet to bear fruit, apparently because the gold bureau of the metallurgy industry ministry which supervises production is short of cash.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PADAT
HICCK
LEYRAR
RACCES

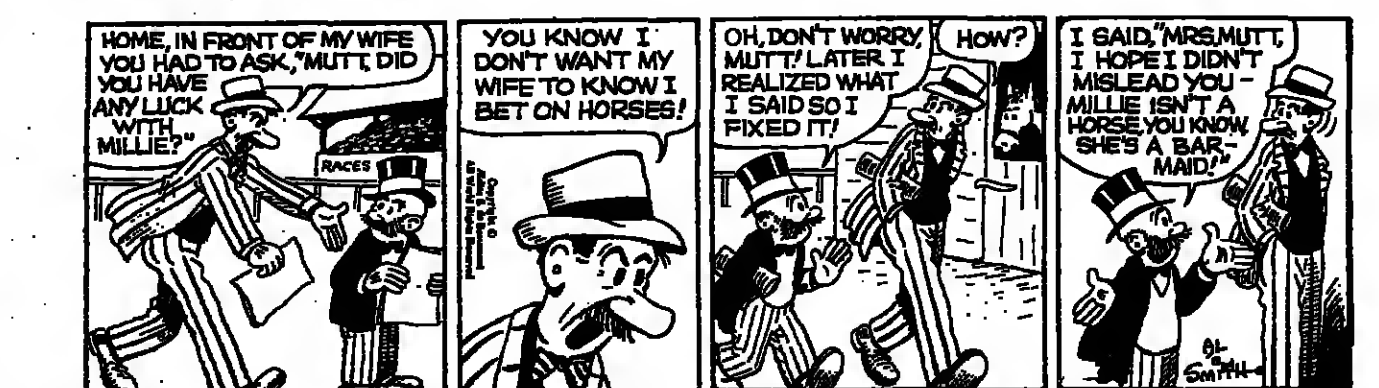


Print answer here: _____
(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: GUISE JINGO MEDLEY UNLIKE
Answer: There was plenty of this when a quarrel broke out in the pippen—MUDSLINGING

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



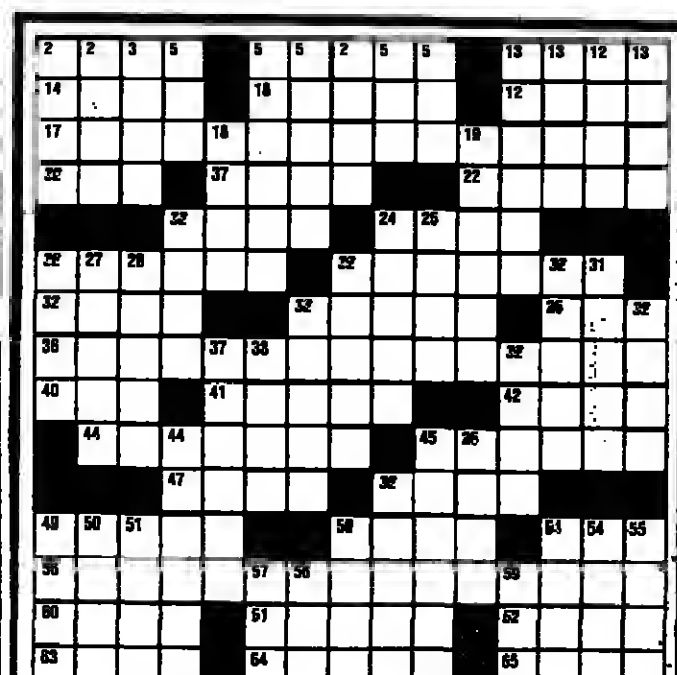
Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword

by Kathryn Righter

ACROSS	33 City in Cornwall	61 Malign	26 Short pencil
1 Square	34 Sphere	62 Serling and	27 Waterway
5 Adipose	36 Surreptitious	63 Site of ancient Olympic games	28 Projecting edge
10 Buckeye State	40 Sack	64 Humors	29 Iron
14 Actress Jackson	41 Expunging	65 Space agency	30 Short
15 Confusion	42 Lab burner		31 Express
18 Author Ayn	43 Abates		32 Donkey
17 Offset	45 Pact		33 Reality
20 Flap	47 Soup		34 Certain
21 Gama and hemite	48 Nourishment		35 Rebut
22 Pastry	49 Soldier		36 Merle of movies
23 Poka	52 B.A. word		37 X
24 Call a cry	53 Money		38 Merle of movies
26 Reredos	56 Retailatory		39 Opened to view
29 Extrude	60 Inking		40 Wane
32 Follow secretly			41 Coral or Red
			42 Building wing
			43 Elaborately decorated
			44 Arrow
			45 Polson
			46 Advantage
			47 Ripped
			48 Cashew nut
			49 Name in soccer
			50 Derm of films
			51 Perrot fish
			52 Pain
			53 Fiber knot
			54 Pueblo
			55 Indian
			56 Pulpit desk
			57 Malay
			58 Canoe
			59 Cardinal and acariet
			60 Pelion's partner
			61 Shade tree
			62 Grande
			63 Samovar



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Chernenko, wife vote in Supreme Soviet elections

MOSCOW (R) — New Kremlin leader Konstantin Chernenko visited a Moscow polling station with his wife Sunday to cast his vote in general elections to the Supreme Soviet, the country's formal legislature.

Mr. Chernenko, 72, walked into the station, a state copyright agency to the central Moscow sidewalk where he lives, collected two ballot papers and walked up a red carpet to deposit them in a box under a white bust of Lenin.

The two papers represented the two official candidates for two seats in the district, one of them a 27-year-old textile worker. Only one Communist or party-approved candidate stands for each of the Soviet's 1,500 seats.

Mr. Chernenko's wife Anna Dmitrieva, wearing a pink and making her first public appearance as the country's "first lady", followed him to the ballot box, smiling at reporters.

Mrs. Chernenko's existence had been a matter of speculation among correspondents and diplomats. The wife of Mr. Chernenko's predecessor Yuri Andropov made her first public appearance on Feb. 11, after her husband's death.

Mr. Chernenko, wearing a thick grey overcoat against a freezing early morning wind, paused after

voting to wish reporters *sprazdnikom* (happy holiday) and chat with local officials.

The Supreme Soviet elections, held every five years, are celebrated as a festive occasion by the state, and the leader's trip to the red-draped polling station is something of a ritual.

It also presents foreign reporters with a rare occasion to see the leader at close quarters.

At the last election, in 1979, the then President Leonid Brezhnev appeared in jovial mood and paused to banter with correspondents on his health and foreign affairs.

In contrast, Mr. Chernenko appeared stiff and uneasy under the glare of television lights.

Western diplomats have been struck by the awkwardness of his public performances since he took office on Feb. 13, most notably in a major speech last Friday.

He stumbled over words, appeared ill at ease and lost his place in his text, missing out an important phrase.

Traditionally, over 99 per cent

of the nation's 160 million electors also cast their vote for the official candidates, among them the entire senior leadership of the Communist Party.

A handful of voters abstain or cross out the official candidate's name on the paper, an action to which he is formally entitled if he disapproves of the choice or wishes to nominate another.

The polls close at 10 p.m. by mid-afternoon, activists working out of thousands of local "agitation points" begin visiting the homes of voters who have not yet turned out.

In what amounts to a pre-election campaign, buildings have been decorated with red flags and posters plastered on walls urge people to vote Saturday's edition of the government daily *Izvestia* carried a red banner headline: "Everybody to the Elections."

The main evening television news showed film of people casting their votes next to a helicopter which carried a ballot box to their remote eastern village.

In spite of the predictable outcome, the elections are taken seriously by the state which has mounted a campaign complete with manifestos, candidates' speeches citing Soviet advances since the last elections, and hours of television coverage.

Trudeau's successor to be chosen in June

OTTAWA (R) — A successor to Canada's Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau will be chosen at a four-day convention of the ruling Liberal Party in Ottawa in June, Party President Iona Campagnolo said Saturday.

The party's national executive decided on the convention site and dates — June 14 to 17 — at a hastily arranged strategy meeting called after Mr. Trudeau announced last Wednesday he planned to resign after 15 years as party leader.

Former Finance Minister John Turner, who quit the Trudeau cabinet in 1975 over policy differences, is tipped to take over the leadership and therefore succeed Mr. Trudeau as prime minister.

The 64-year-old Mr. Trudeau, who said his resignation would be effective as soon as the Liberals chose a successor, was thought likely to attend a seven-nation economic summit of Western industrial powers in London on June 7-9 before he retires.

The timing of the convention will give the new prime minister the option of calling a late-summer election before the September visit of Pope John Paul.

An election is expected this year, although the government's mandate extends into early 1985.

'Nicaragua will not allow outside supervision of November elections'

MANAGUA (Agencies) — Nicaragua will not give in to pressure from the United States or opposition parties to let international organisations oversee elections next November, Interior Minister Tomas Borge said.

The government could only accept that the elections "be supervised by the people of Nicaragua," Mr. Borge said Saturday in a speech marking the return from Cuba of the remains of the founder of the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front.

Mr. Borge said the elections for a president, vice-president and a constituent assembly would be held to fulfill a commitment not to the organisation of American states but to the Nicaraguan people.

The Sandinistas originally said the elections would be held in 1985, but Junta leader Daniel Ortega announced on Feb. 21 the polling would be moved up to Nov. 4.

'Campaign of terror'

Mr. Borge also said the government had information about a

U.S.-sponsored plan for a "campaign of terror" against Nicaragua in upcoming months, including specialised commandos to operate within the country and increased attacks by American-backed rebels based in Honduras and Costa Rica.

Mr. Borge was speaking before 100,000 people in the Plaza of the Revolution, where the body of Colonel Jose Santos Lopez was buried Saturday after being brought back from Cuba.

Lopez fought alongside Nicaragua's national hero, General Augusto Cesar Sandino, who led guerrillas trying to oust U.S. forces from Nicaragua in the 1930s.

In 1961, Santos Lopez founded the Sandinista National Liberation Front, which took power in a revolution 18 years later.

He died of lung cancer in Cuba in 1965.

Santos Lopez was Saturday bestowed with the honorary title of chief of state.

Mr. Borge said that the U.S. sponsored violence would include the explosion of mines sup-

plied by the United States that rebels claim they have already placed in the ports of Corinto and El Bluff.

Corinto is the country's major fuel-unloading facility, located on the Pacific coast about 150 kilometres northwest of the capital city. El Bluff is on the Caribbean coast about 350 kilometres northeast of the capital.

"The (U.S.) imperialist forces have ordered their mercenaries to begin next week a new criminal, terrorist escalation against economic targets," Mr. Borge said.

"Nicaragua is not officially at war with the United States," Mr. Borge said in his speech, "but that government has continued, without even blushing, to deliver to the counter-revolutionary forces all types of arms and now water mines from its own arsenal."

The Costa Rica-based Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, which claims several thousand rebel fighters, claimed Friday it has mined the Nicaraguan ports to deter foreign ships from delivering weapons to the country.

India's rival Sikh leaders urge militants to unite

NEW DELHI (R) — Two Rival Sikh Militant leaders Saturday called on their followers in the strife-torn Punjab state to unite, the Press Trust of India news agency reported.

It said the appeals were made by Harchand Singh Longowal, president of the main Sikh party, the Akali Dal, and hardline preacher Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale.

Relations between the two leaders had worsened in the recent past. Mr. Longowal said last month that Mr. Bhindranwale was advocating the mass killing of Hindus.

Hindu-Sikh violence flared in Punjab state, where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live, after a militant Hindu group called a state-wide strike on Feb. 14 to protest at what it saw as favoured treatment of Sikhs by the government.

Five suspected Sikh extremists were shot dead in clashes with police Friday in Punjab. More than 70 people have died and some 300 injured in more than two weeks of sectarian violence in the state.

In Moga town, 80 kilometres from the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, followers of Mr. Bhindranwale fired shots in the air and waved swords and spears from inside a Sikh shrine.

The news agency said the Sikhs were demanding the release of four men held by police. It said shopkeepers pulled down shutters in panic and authorities intervened to restore order.

Curfew imposed on seven major Punjab towns was extended Saturday, but no other violence was reported.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi told a public meeting in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh her



government was watching the Punjab situation and would take appropriate action when merited. "We are still trying our best to find a solution," she said.

Swedes open fire on diver in submarine hunt

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish troops hunting a foreign submarine near a top-secret naval base opened fire Saturday night on a suspected diver trying to escape to the open sea, a military spokesman said.

Soldiers and police were this morning still searching an island on the edge of the Karlskrona Archipelago for traces of the man nearly five hours after the shooting, according to the spokesman.

Navy helicopters dropped several charges into the waters of the archipelago just east of the island as troops using flares and police dogs started a land search, he said. The shooting occurred late Saturday night on the island of Almoe

at almost exactly the same spot where troops fired at a frogman on Wednesday night.

The Swedish military, who have been searching the shallow waters of the archipelago for the last three weeks, are convinced a foreign vessel, probably a mini-submarine, is trapped in the area.

In 1981 a Soviet whiskey-class submarine ran aground off the Karlskrona Naval base. Moscow blamed a navigational error for the incident.

Early Saturday, the Swedish military reported a second submarine lurking in the open sea just outside the archipelago and dropped depth charges to warn it off. Most of Sweden's small fleet is taking part in the submarine hunt

and the archipelago has been virtually sealed off to prevent any breakout or rescue attempt.

The presence of a second submarine outside the area indicated that a "mother ship" might be trying to organise an escape, according to military sources at Karlskrona.

The spokesman said the explosives dropped this morning inside the archipelago were not depth charges, but smaller weapons whose aim was to create shock waves rather than cause serious damage.

This appeared to confirm the theory that the Swedish forces are determined to capture rather than destroy the intruder.

Soviet submarine hunts give Swedish town new lease of life

By Peter Gumbel
Reuters

KARLSKRONA, Sweden — Naval recruits at the large military academy here used to call Karlskrona "pinnat", the town of torment, because they found it so boring. But a Soviet submarine changed all that.

Karlskrona's main boast was that it had the largest town square in Sweden, once used for grand military parades but now a windswept car park. The handful of restaurants and hotels complained of poor business throughout the year.

Then, in October 1981, a Soviet Whiskey-class submarine ran aground in the shallow waters near a secret naval base here.

The unexpected visit of Captain Pyotr Gushin strained relations between neutral Sweden and the Soviet Union, but it gave Karlskrona a new lease of life. So have frequent divers ever since for suspected underwater intruders — including one which has been under way for the past three weeks.

"Captain Gushin is a very good man," Sonja Nilsson, the head of Karlskrona's tourist office, told Reuters. "He came with his submarine and put this town on the world map."

"If I could, I should like to invite the captain to a free holiday here and send him roses every Christmas."

The number of tourists has more than tripled. Visitors now have difficulty finding a spare room even in freezing February, and have to queue outside the

town's crowded bars to get in.

The events here, like the present search during which Sweden set up a virtual land and sea blockade near the naval base, have attracted good business and excitement to this town of 60,000.

And the town has been quick to cash in on the interest.

Postcards depicting the Soviet submarine being towed into land are on sale everywhere, alongside T-shirts, bags, pens and stickers with the slogan "Whiskey on the rocks."

Visitors can get a panoramic view of Karlskrona through a periscope at the naval museum. Bars and hotels offer a "submarine cocktail" of gin, Russian tonic, ice and a swizzle-stick for the periscope.

At Svensk Metallkonst, the main souvenir shop, manager Lars Eric Asp said that a huge increase in sales enabled him to open a second store in town and a branch in Stockholm recently.

Handmade bronze replicas of 17th-century cannons are especially popular with Americans even though they cost up to 30,000 crowns (\$3,800) apiece, Mr. Asp said.

The rise in tourism is welcome in a town where the few industries not connected with the large naval base have gradually trimmed their workforces because of economic recession and increased use of computerised technology.

"There are a lot more jobs now, particularly for youngsters during the summer," said Mr. Nilsson, who has big plans for tourism.

The town authorities recently persuaded the Swedish Navy to

sell them an old submarine, the 25-year-old Gripen, which Mr. Nilsson wants to turn into a youth hostel and cafe.

But his latest idea — guided boat trips to the place where the submarine ran aground — showed up one of the difficulties in promoting mass tourism here and was turned down abruptly by the local navy commanders.

Since it was founded on Trossö island in 1680, Karlskrona has been a key military base because of a strategic position on the Baltic and because it does not freeze up in winter.

Many of the tree-covered islands and their surrounding waters are restricted for military use, and part of the archipelago is sealed off to all but Swedish nationals.

The sensitivity of the military means foreign visitors can barely stray beyond the town centre, particularly when there is a submarine scare.

While the civilian townspeople seem accustomed to living with a big naval presence and having their papers checked frequently at road blocks, media representatives complain about what they see as the excessive secrecy of the local authorities.

"When it goes boom outside, we have to phone Stockholm to find out what happened," says Ingelena Fischer, an editor on the daily *Blekinge Läns Tidning*.

The lack of information has given rise to some sensational and erroneous reports, like one last month about the body of a dead Soviet frogman being washed up on a beach.

U.K. Labour Party more popular than ruling Conservatives, poll says

LONDON (R) — Britain's opposition Labour Party is more popular than the ruling Conservatives for the first time since the Falklands war with Argentina in 1982, according to an opinion poll published Saturday night.

The poll, conducted by Mori and published in early editions of the Sunday Times, gave Labour 41 per cent support, the Conservatives 38 per cent and the Centrist Alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats 18 per cent.

The Falklands war boosted the popularity of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's first government and the Conservatives won a landslide victory in a general election last June.

But the latest poll showed widespread public dissatisfaction with Mrs. Thatcher's handling of some recent political issues. It said 60 per cent of voters disapproved of her ban on trade unions at the government's Electronic Espionage Centre in Cheltenham, southwest England.

The poll also showed that Mrs.

Thatcher was increasingly seen as inflexible and out of touch with ordinary voters. Of those questioned, 44 per cent saw her as a dictator.

Labour has recovered strongly under its new youthful leader, Neil Kinnock, who replaced Michael Foot last October.

The party, rent by bitter internal divisions between its left and right wings, captured only 28.5 per cent of the vote in the last general election.

The scale of Labour's defeat dampened all enthusiasm for party squabbles but some commentators say a new phase of internal warfare may lie ahead.

Earlier this week Labour's leading leftwinger, Tony Benn, was re-elected to parliament after a defeat in last year's election.

Some Labour supporters fear that Mr. Benn's return may lead to fresh disputes over policy and bring problems for Mr. Kinnock's campaign to unite the party. Within hours of Mr. Benn's victory, a policy document drawn up



by him had been leaked to the British press. It called for curbs on the powers of the monarch and the prime minister.

Mr. Benn's aides said the paper was at least eight months old and had been resurrected by right-wing critics within the party to discredit him.

Mongolia rejects China's demands for troop reduction

MOSCOW (R) — Mongolia categorically rejects a Chinese demand for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from its territories as a condition for improving Sino-Soviet relations, a statement by the Ulan Bator government said Saturday.

The statement, carried by the Soviet News Agency TASS, said Mongolia attached great importance to Sino-Soviet political consultations aimed at reviving relations damaged by 20 years of ideological feuding.

"The Mongolian government categorically rejects this demand put forward by the Chinese side," the statement said.

One of Peking's three demands for improving links is that Soviet troop concentrations along its border, including those in Mongolia, be reduced. Mongolia is sandwiched between China and the Soviet Union.

Prince Andrew's girlfriend admits posing for nude photo

LONDON (R) — Prince Andrew's latest girlfriend, model Katie Rabett, has admitted posing for a nude photo session, the News of the World newspaper said Sunday.

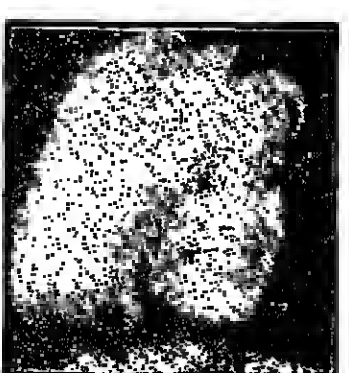
Miss Rabett, 23, strenuously denied posing in the nude professionally when the newspaper published what it said was a nude picture of her last week.

In the high court on Thursday, she submitted a sworn statement saying that she had not posed nude.

Photographer Philip Lindsay produced a counter-affidavit, asserting that the shots were genuine and he had taken them.

The News of the World said Miss Rabett's lawyer had now written to its lawyers acknowledging that the photos were genuine.

The newspaper quoted lawyer Richard Sykes as saying: "How-



ever, she emphatically maintains that she has no memory whatever of the nude photographs being taken."

Prince Andrew, Queen Elizabeth's second son, has acquired a reputation with Britain's popular press as an escort of glamorous women ready to bare all.

Premier's husband linked to Mark's deal in Oman

LONDON (AP) — The Sunday Times linked Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's husband Denis to a controversial 1981 construction deal in Oman involving her son that has triggered allegations of a conflict of interests.

Amid demands Mrs. Thatcher declare her son's business interests in parliament, the paper said Mr. Thatcher shares a London bank account with his son into which Mark Thatcher's fee for helping a British firm win a £300 million (\$444 million) contract in Oman would have been paid.

The prime minister's husband is co-signatory of the account in the name of Montegale Marketing Limited at Barclays Bank in central London, the Sunday Times said.

Mark Thatcher holds 99 of the 100 shares in Montegale Marketing, which he set up with auto racing friend Steve Tipping in 1979, the year his mother became prime minister, the paper said. Mr. Tipping holds the other 1 per cent of the stock.

The paper quoted Tipping as saying young Thatcher, 30, was paid "less than 50,000 pounds" (\$74,000) for his part in securing the contract to build a university in Oman for Cementation International. The money, he said, "will appear" in the Montegale account.

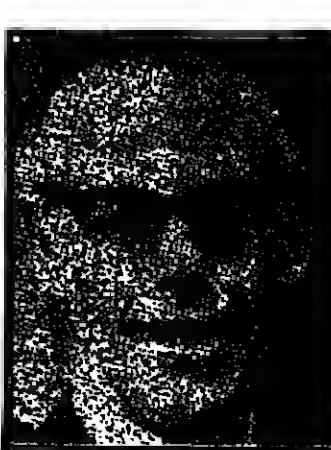
The Sunday Times said Mrs. Thatcher's husband, a former oil company executive, was authorised last year to sign checks on the Montegale account although he is not a director.

The weekly said the account was overdrawn by £12,000 (\$17,760) last week.

Officials at Mrs. Thatcher's 10 Downing Street office refused all comment on the report early Sunday.

"We have nothing to say and intend to say nothing on this report," said a spokesman who declined to be identified.

The Sunday Times said Mrs. Thatcher "has yet to respond to a written inquiry about the bank account."



Mark Thatcher admitted in a Sunday Times interview last month that he was paid by Cementation International for helping secure the Oman contract, but declined to say how much.

The deal was made at the same time that his mother was making an official visit to the oil-rich Gulf state to drum up business for British industry. Mark admitted he met his mother in Oman.

The Observer newspaper, which first reported his involvement in the deal, said Feb. 5 that his father had an interest in a £3 million (\$4.4 million) landscaping contract for the Oman University offered for tender by Cementation.

The latest Sunday Times report will heighten demands by members of parliament that Mrs. Thatcher make a statement to the House of Commons on her family's business interests.

Since the controversy began in January, Mrs. Thatcher has refused to make a statement despite urgings from her advisers she should silence the increasingly embarrassing allegations by so-called exploited her position for profit.

Hersha critic, Peter Shore, the opposition Labour Party's spokesman on trade, said Saturday: "The gravity of what is involved for the prime minister and for the standards of conduct of British public life is difficult to exaggerate."

COLUMN

Shinwell supports rights of smokers

LONDON (Agencies) — The 99-year-old British parliamentarian Lord Shinwell struck out for the rights of smokers in the House of Lords when the Earl of Kinnoull urged a ban on smoking on London's double-decker buses. "I am the last person to prevent any member asking a question," said Shinwell, who has been smoking for most of his life, and is not about to quit for fear of dying before his time. "But I am becoming a bit aggravated by questions which aim at interfering with a civilized existence. I never travel on a bus — I have the opportunity of using a car — but this is going a bit too far."

Hirohito finds new species of crab

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's Emperor Hirohito, a well-known marine biologist, discovered a new species of a tiny crab near his beachside villa six years ago, a nationally circulated newspaper reported Saturday. The Japanese Society for crustaceology has named the discovery, "Mikado Awatsubai" the Tokyo Shimbun reported. Mikado refers to the emperor and is a title that is no longer used. Society Chairman Tsune Sakai, an honorary professor of Yokohama University, said the fan-shaped Crustacean has a shell that is only one centimetre long and 1.45 centimetres wide. He said it is a species that belongs to the "ogi-gani" grouping that consists of 75 varieties, and it differs from the 6,000 to 7,000 kinds of crabs the society lists officially.

Heart surgeon's son cremated

CAPE TOWN (AP) — The body of Andre Barnard, the 32-year-old physician son of heart surgeon Christian Barnard, was cremated Saturday at a private service four days after he was found dead in the bathtub of the family home. News accounts said a syringe was found beside the bathtub where Dr. Barnard's body was found by his wife, Gail, on Wednesday morning, and that he was believed to have died from an injection. Police said they were investigating the possibility of suicide, but that autopsy results would not be available for two to three weeks. The father cut short an 11-week Far East tour and arrived home Friday from Singapore, where he learned of his son's death. Christian Barnard, 61, told reporters after his arrival, "I just could not understand it." Looking pale and exhausted, he said he had no immediate plans for the future, adding, "I must sort things out."

City lacks funds to buy light bulbs

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — The city of Buenos Aires, lacking funds to buy bulbs for traffic lights, has authorised workers to remove the bulbs from yellow caution lights to replace burned out bulbs in red and green lights. City Public Work Secretary Horacio Manuel Tolosa said Friday that the Municipality lacks the \$53,000 "to pay for the 32,000 40- to 60-watt bulbs needed in the traffic lights on the city's main streets." The city is responsible for maintenance of approximately 60 per cent of the traffic lights in the city of nearly 4 million inhabitants.

Slain Beatle's son forms group

LONDON (AP) — Julian Lennon, son of slain ex-Beatle John Lennon, says he's formed his own band and hopes to have a record out later this year. "We hope to start recording later this year and hope to have our first record released before Christmas," Lennon told reporters at London's Heathrow Airport before boarding a Concorde flight for New York, where he plans talks with record company executives. "We will eventually tour, but we want to make sure we've got it right before we show ourselves," Lennon, 20, son of the ex-Beatle's first wife Cynthia, said he expects to spend two weeks in the United States. "I can't say very much about the project at this stage, and as for the name of the group, that would be telling," he said. As for the group's prospects, "it would certainly be nice to follow in my father's footsteps, but we'll have to wait and see," he said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠883 ♠J8 ♠AKQ82 ♠Q65
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 4 ♠ ?
What action do you take?
- Q.2 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AJ8 ♠AQ842 ♠AQ1082
Partner opens the bidding with three diamonds. What action do you take?
- Q.3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK108 ♠A7 ♠8754 ♠764
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass ?
Look for answers on Monday.
- What do you bid now?
- Q.4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠875 ♠K108753 ♠954
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q.5 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q983 ♠J732 ♠Q753 ♠6
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What action do you take?
- Q.6 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠4 ♠Q983 ♠J73 ♠Q7632
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?